

Sermon notes

Authentic leadership in the church

1 Corinthians 4:1-21

Authentic leadership in the church (*Chapters 1-4*)

- (1) The Corinthians thought they had advanced beyond Apostolic revelation (4.1-7)

- (2) The Corinthians thought they had advanced beyond Apostolic experience (4.8-13)

- (3) Tough words from a loving father in the faith (4.14-21)

11 implications for Chalmers on Christian leaders

6 for Christian leaders

- (1) Look honestly at your hearts as to how you think about Christian leaders and yourself.
- (2) Don't look for praise, popularity, platforms or position as your means of affirmation. Look first to Jesus and his Word, and then only to those whose counsel you can really trust.
- (3) Listen to the critique of Jesus and his Word, and then only those whose counsel you can really trust.
- (4) Don't advance beyond Apostolic revelation, which is Jesus' Word.
- (5) Don't advance beyond Apostolic experience. Come to terms with the fact that authentic ministry is cross-shaped, brutal, relentlessly difficult, discouraging and despised.
- (6) Don't build a ministry that depends on your personality, leadership, gifts and godliness. Use your personality, leadership, gifts and godliness to build a ministry that doesn't depend on you.

5 for us all

- (1) Look honestly at your hearts as to how you think about Christian leaders.
- (2) Learn what kind of leadership leads to lasting fruitfulness.
- (3) Learn the difference between your podcasts and your pastor-teachers.
- (4) Hold accountable and evaluate your pastor-teachers for the right reasons.
- (5) Never build your faith around a Christian leader, even though you love and value them. Build your faith only on Jesus and his Word.

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