## "The Measure of a Minister, Part 1"

Sunday, April 21, 2024, 10:30 a.m.
Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI
Pastor Jonathan DeCou
1 Corinthians 4:1-6

**BIG IDEA**: The Minister is a SERVANT; the goal is FAITHFULNESS.

"Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit." 1 Corinthians 4:6 (CSB)

- A <u>Servant</u> must be <u>trustworthy</u>. (v1)
  - O A Servant is entrusted by Christ and God. (v1)
  - A <u>Servant</u> is <u>entrusted</u> with <u>mysteries</u>. (v1)
- A <u>Servant</u> must be <u>faithful</u>. (v2)
  - A <u>Servant</u> is required to be <u>faithful</u>. (v2)
  - O A Servant is faithful to his master. (v2)
- A <u>Servant</u> must be <u>judged</u>. (v3-6)
  - A <u>Servant</u> is judged by <u>others</u>. (v3a)
  - A <u>Servant</u> is judged by <u>himself</u>. (v3b-4a)
  - O A Servant is judged by God. (v4b-6)
    - So don't judge at the wrong time. (v5)

- So don't judge according to the wrong standard. (v6a)
- So don't judge with the wrong motive. (v6b)

**BIG IDEA**: The Minister is a SERVANT; the goal is FAITHFULNESS.

READ: 1 Corinthians 4:1-6

**THINK**: Reflect on the Minister as a Servant, then ask yourself these questions: What is the most menial job you ever had? What did you like and/or dislike about it? Do you see yourself more as an "under-rower" or the one calling the shots? How could Paul's conscience be undependable (v3-4)? Has your conscience ever differed with God's evaluation of your life and conduct? How do you feel about the Lord "bringing to light" what is hidden and exposing the motives of our hearts (v5)? How can we live so that what is revealed will be less surprising and embarrassing? **DO**: How can you help your pastors and deacons be accountable, accepted, and affirmed? Commit to daily prayer for the WBC Leadership to be faithful.