



# 1 Corinthians 4

## 5 Marks of a Cross-Shaped Christian

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### Discussion Questions

#### INTRODUCTION

In 1 Corinthians 4, Paul lays out a blueprint for living life as a Christ follower. Paul points to his life as one transformed by God's grace that then is empowered to love and serve others, and even suffer for the gospel if necessary. Ultimately, all of this is done for the sake of praising, honoring and glorifying God with our lives.

#### DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

1. Are you embracing the identity and function of a servant and steward? How are the attitudes of a servant and a steward linked? What are some areas you could grow in serving others & promoting the gospel?
2. Do you find yourself easily swayed by the opinions of others? What might this reveal about your heart? How does pursuing God's affirmation alone change how you serve and who you serve?
3. In what ways is grace difficult to embrace? How might a lack of grace affect the christian community? What grace can you point to in yourself and in each others lives? Spend time affirming each other.
4. Do you find yourself running away from suffering and towards comfort? Why? What do you think daily embracing suffering should look like? Why is suffering a necessary part of the christian life?
5. Why does the gospel demand not mere talk, but a life changed to reflect the Gospel? What are some of your behaviors and motives that need to be conformed to a dependence on the Gospel?
6. What are some ways that we as a small group can pursue these marks of service, praise, suffering and gospel change together?

#### PRAYER

Spend some time in prayer with one another for things drawn out in the discussion.