



Let Go and Let God

I Corinthians 3:18 – 4:7

Do what you know to do and let God take care of the results – God calls us to abandon outcomes, trust His heart, and trust His plan.

1 Corinthians 3:18 Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. ¹⁹For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, “he catches the wise in the craftiness,” ²⁰and again, “The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, and they are futile.” (ESV)

Two Assumptions:

- We can be **DECEIVED**
- We can deceive **OURSELVES**

Self Deceptions:

- We can believe we’re in **CONTROL** of most **CIRCUMSTANCES** and **OUTCOMES**
- We can believe we have **WISDOM** that did not come from **GOD**
- We can believe we’re **BETTER** than we **REALLY** are

1 Corinthians 3:21 So let no one boast in men, for all things are yours, ²²Whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future – all are yours, ²³and you are Christ’s, and Christ is God’s. (ESV)

The truth about boasting:

- Everything belongs to **GOD**

1 Corinthians 4:1 This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. (ESV)

Two Key words:

- Servants: The word means **UNDER-ROWERS**, the ones who man the oars below deck
- Stewards: The housekeeper would **FOLLOW** instruction, not **DETERMINE** outcomes

The Measurement of Success:

- Jesus measures success by the **FAITHFULNESS** of the steward

1 Corinthians 4:3 But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God. (ESV)

Why leave the Judging up to God:

- The Master of the house is **JESUS**
- He is the one who will bring all deeds and motives into the **LIGHT**

1 Corinthians 4:6 I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another. ⁷For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If you then received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it? (ESV)

Who is the source:

- The source of life and everything we have and everything we are is **GOD**

If that is true, then why do we behave as though it’s not? If God is in control, if he is the source of all life, then his thoughts are the best thoughts, his ways are the right ways, his plans are the best plans.

Do what you know to do and let God take care of the results.

Brother’s Keeper Thought:

Share with your small group or spiritual partner some of the ways you’ve tried to determine outcomes in your life rather than just being faithful and letting God determine the outcomes. How can you change that in the future?

Bible Reading Plan

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: Gal. 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mon.: Titus 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tues.: Titus 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wed.: Titus 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs.: Psalm 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fri.: Psalm 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sat.: Psalm 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: Psalm 4 | |

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