



**Title:** Gospel Centered Humility (First Corinthians #9)

**Text:** 1 Corinthians 4:1-7

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**Date:** 11.28.10

**Intro:** In 1 Corinthians 4:1-7, Paul begins a defense of his ministry by reminding the Corinthians of the pride smashing humility that should come with understanding the Gospel. He asks them, "What do you have that you did not receive?"

## 1. Leaders are to be trustworthy stewards of the Gospel.

A. Trustworthiness means to be a faithful deliverer of the truth.

B. This applies to Pastors, Churches, and Individuals.

- Jude 3—"contend for the faith..."

## 2. The Gospel frees us from slavery to the approval of man.

## 3. Church life should not be a platform for self-exaltation.

A. Symptoms:

1. People who crave authority
2. Fear that we'll neglect appreciating someone.
3. Obsession with the horizontal.
4. Like a child that just wants someone to acknowledge them.

B. Biblical balance:

This is not to say that we should not love each other well and give one another honor.

## 4. Understanding the Gospel should produce utter humility.

A. In Our Salvation:

- Ephesians 2:1-10
- John 1:12—"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."

B. In Our Circumstance:

- Romans 8:28
- Ephesians 1:11