

## **A Beautiful Mess: Good Ministers Are...**

Core Group Discussion Guide  
09-31-2017

### **Message Overview:**

What does it mean to be a minister in the church? What should ministers look like, act like, be like? Congregations and their leaders have a whole variety of answers to these questions. In chapter four of I Corinthians Paul addresses what authority he has and does not have. As we look at this chapter we will discover what expectations we should have of our leaders and what expectations we ought to have of ourselves. As we continue to see the church described in I Corinthians, my prayer is that we begin understanding God's design for his church more deeply.

### **Text:**

- I Corinthians 4

### **Questions for Discussion:**

1. (Activity) Prior to class discussion, break into groups of 3-4. Instruct each group to create a list of 4 expectations they feel are appropriate to have of their church leaders and 4 expectations that they might have but probably shouldn't. (When groups have finished, discuss their responses with the rest of the group.)
2. Lets recap what leadership descriptions Paul wrote about in I Corinthians and were highlighted in the message:
  - a. (Vs 1-6 – Faithfulness) What did this mean?
  - b. (Vs 7-13 – Humility) What did this mean?
  - c. (Vs 14 - 21 – Tenderness) What did this mean?
3. Read vs 16.
4. Is it difficult to embrace the idea that we are all called to live the descriptions Paul laid out for ministers? Why or why not?
5. Which of the traits of Christian ministers Paul wrote about in this chapter do you find most difficult to imitate?

Close in prayer for our leaders and each other as we all seek to become more like Jesus.