



**Dealing with  
Arrogant Christians**  
I Corinthians 4:8-21

**Observations...**

- A. Some people in the church were 'puffed up' and arrogant  
1 Corinthians 4:18 *Some are arrogant, as though I were not coming to you. <sup>19</sup>But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I will find out not the talk of these arrogant people but their power.*
- B. Paul is dealing with these people like a father  
1 Corinthians 4:14 *I do not write these things to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. <sup>15</sup>For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel.*

**PROFILING ARROGANT CHRISTIANS**

1. Arrogant Christians love feeling SUPERIOR to others 4:6  
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2. Arrogant Christians are a CONTRADICTION 4:7  
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3. Arrogant Christians are self-sufficient, selfishly ambitious, have an independent streak, and DISDAIN SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY 4:8  
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4. Arrogant Christians make the ministry BURDENSOME AND DIFFICULT for spiritual shepherds 4:9-13  
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5. Arrogant Christians need to be CONFRONTED by spiritual fathers 4:14-21  
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**FATHERLY CONFRONTATION**

- A. Affirm love "...as my beloved children"
- B. Avoid shaming "I do not write these things to make you ashamed"
- C. Give warning "...but to admonish you"
- D. Establish authority "For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus ..."
- E. Press the gospel in deep "...through the Gospel"
- F. Urge imitation "I urge you then, be imitators of me"
- G. Involve others "That is why I sent you Timothy..."
- H. Stay involved "But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I will find out..."
- I. Present choices "What do you wish?"
- J. Customize your approach "Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love in a spirit of gentleness"

**Applications**

- God is speaking to me about my own arrogant attitude as a Christian, and how out of line it is with His Gospel. I'm asking Him for the grace to repent and humble myself before Him.
- God is bringing to mind a fellow believer I know who exhibits these qualities of arrogance, and I'm asking for His grace to discern if He wants me to confront that individual, and how to go about it.
- God is convicting me of my need to be more humble and teachable by allowing/inviting others to speak into my life
- I aspire to spiritual leadership and I need to understand and accept the cost that may be involved.
- I need a mentor/spiritual partner/coach in my life
- I need to be a better dad to my kids.
- I need to be baptized ☺
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading Plan**

- Sun.: Psalm 18       Mon.: Psalm 19       Tues.: Psalm 20
- Wed.: Psalm 21       Thurs.: Psalm 22       Fri.: Psalm 23
- Sat.: Psalm 24       Sun.: Psalm 25