

1 Corinthians 3 • One Work, Many Servants

1. (v.1-5) Spiritual leaders are not **dictators**, but **servants** whose goal is producing spiritual **maturity**, defined biblically as quality **relationships**.
2. (v. 6-9) Spiritual leaders are not **specialists** independent from everyone else, but **co-laborers** with skills that can only be fully realized as part of the **whole team**.
3. (v.10-17) Spiritual leaders are ultimately judged according to the spiritual **quality** of their **results**, whether **eternal** for rewards, **temporal** for a loss of all except their salvation, or **permanently** should they be revealed to actually be false shepherds.
4. (v.18-23) Spiritual leaders never claim it is “**their**” church alone, but facilitate everyone’s understanding that “**all things belong to you**”.

Overall Application

- As God’s field, we are to receive the Word of God **implanted** in us and **bear** spiritual fruit.
- As God’s temple, we are to be built with spiritually lasting **materials** for the **glory** of God.
- Each of us, regardless of office or gift, are making **contributions**, be they gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay or straw.
- But the ultimate quality of our **work**, which speaks to our level of spiritual **maturity**, is found in the **quality** of our personal relationships.