

TAKEAWAY

Real Life Church

LEADERSHIP

Sunday 17th March 2019

INTRODUCTION

On Sunday, Ian White took us through the next stage of our Real Life Church series, digging into the characteristics that make a good leader.

DISCUSS

1. Talk about occasions when you've been asked to do something special. How did it feel to be asked?

READ

1 Corinthians 4:1-7

DISCUSS

2. Paul had been commissioned by God to be an apostle (literally a 'sent one'). How do you think he saw himself? Here are some hints for leaders:

'Servants' – have a look at 1 Corinthians 3:5-7

'Entrusted' – this is the word they used of a 'house manager' or 'steward'.

'Secret things' – The so-called mystery religions of Paul's day used this word for things that would only be revealed to the

closed group of initiated followers. But Paul uses it to describe anything that was formerly hidden or obscure to us, but that God has now revealed. Like the life-changing power of the gospel.

... and there are others in the passage for you to track down.

READ

1 Corinthians 4:8-10

DISCUSS

3. Paul is being sarcastic here to get the Corinthians to see how spiritually poor they really are because of all their in-fighting. (Look at the irony in v10!) We live in a society where views are becoming more polarised (Politically: left and right. Socially: cool or boring. Photographically: stunning young or sad old). The different

factions are more likely to shout at each other from a distance than engage in understanding the other's viewpoint. This often plays itself out, for example, on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram. So how might you go about having a constructive conversation with someone you profoundly disagree with?

READ

1 Corinthians 4:11-13

DISCUSS

4. This describes Paul's own personal experience, especially while he was in prison. Have there been times when you have suffered or been disadvantaged because of your faith or something else that you hold dear?



READ

1 Corinthians 4:14-21

DISCUSS

5. Ian White explained how guardians were paid servants

responsible for children's upbringing. Paul contrasts these people with their father who cared for them in a totally different way. What's the difference? Who

have been your fathers in your faith?

6. Are there ways in which you can act like 'Fathers' to other members of your group?

