

Congolese Devotional

A Devotional from Pastor Joseph Tombole, Superintendent of the Gbado region

1 Cor 4:1-2 teaches us about faithfulness through the eyes of a servant and a steward. A servant is someone who depends on someone else, his superior or employer. A steward someone who manages the resources of others. We are to be both servants and stewards. We serve Christ and steward God's truth, his mysteries. As Christ's servant, we are dependent on him, but we also bear responsibility for the stewardship of his resources. But what does it take to do this? This passage tells us the being a servant-steward requires faithfulness. Faithfulness has six important elements:

1. **Truth.** Truth doesn't change, and it stands up to every type of test. It is the opposite of a lie, which eventually crumbles and can never be confirmed. We know something is true when we can freely give it away.
2. **Integrity.** Integrity is wholeness, it is being a whole entity with no spoiled parts, true to form through and through.
3. **Justice.** Justice constantly seeks to bring peace, without which we are left with gossip and quarreling.
4. **Honesty.** Being honest is being committed to a principle, or what we say, consistently in every part of our lives.
5. **Loyalty.** This is the opposite of hypocrisy, it is being committed to a pursuit in all of its substance, unconcerned with projections and image. There is a saying that goes, "One can't hide behind what one respects." When we believe in something or someone, and respect them, we advance them and their cause. We are always out in front.
6. **Sincerity.** To be frank and open is to be beautiful. When we are being faithful, there is no need to be evasive and indirect. We can say everything to everyone just how it is.

May these attributes apply to each of us, and all of us together, as we serve Christ and steward God's truth.

This then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed.

Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

Kids Korner



Sometimes we have to stay home from school because we get sick. But what if your doctor didn't have the medicine you needed to get better? You would have to miss a lot of school! In Congo, preventable diseases, like malaria and diarrhea, cause children to miss school and fall behind. Through CCI funding, we are working towards preventing these diseases with vaccinations, nutrition education, and clean water so children can attend school.

Here in the U.S., kids also need to be aware of what to do when they or someone else is hurt or sick, and how to help. One way to do this is to teach kids the importance of first aid through creating their own First Aid Kit to keep at home.

First Aid Kit Activity

Materials

- Waterproof container with lid
- Adhesive bandages
- Adhesive tape
- Antiseptic wipes
- Antibiotic ointment
- Cotton balls
- Latex gloves
- Ice pack
- Scissors
- Thermometer
- List of emergency phone numbers (9-1-1, mom, dad, aunt, grandma, sister, etc.)
- Paper and markers



Instructions

1. Teach about the importance of notifying an adult when they or someone gets hurt, and when to call 9-1-1.
2. Color and decorate the boxes using the paper and markers, writing "First Aid Kit" on the top.
3. Let the kids place the items in their kit, teaching them what each item is and when to use it.
4. Role-play a few scenarios with the kids to demonstrate their understanding of how each item in the kit should be used.



Go a Step Further!

Kids can create First Aid Kits for families in your church, and sell the kits to raise support for the Congo Clinic Initiative!