

WAIT TO KNOW THE ANSWERS

Therefore, do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God. 1 Corinthians 4:5 (ESV)

When I was 11 years old, I first learned the twelve points of the Boy Scout Law. From “Trustworthy” to “Reverent” the points were to guide behavior and purpose. In 1 Corinthians 4:2, we read that stewards should “Be found trustworthy”. However, in verse 5, St. Paul questions how any human can judge this in others because only God can “Disclose the purposes of the heart”.

Sometimes in life we may be asked to make judgments of which we do not feel capable. This is especially hard if we try to judge someone else’s opinions or intent.

In the Boy Scouts, when a scout was trying to move up in rank, he would sit with a Board of Review. This panel was composed of adult and scout aged leaders who were charged to ensure that all necessary steps had been completed to move into the next rank. One leader who sometimes sat on this Board always asked his favorite question, “What is the most important Scout Law?” The answers would vary, but if the scout did not pick the one this leader believed it to be, he would say, “Wrong!” and then try to explain why this was the only right answer. He judged and did not allow the scout to defend his reasoning. The leader, I felt, was the one who was “Wrong!” These events showed me how important it is in life to be patient, caring and understanding in hearing others' opinions and answers.

We should wait for the Lord’s judgments, and not our own, for when He reveals “The purposes of the Heart”, those answers will be right.

Prayer: Lord, Grant us patience to wait for Your true judgements and You reveal to us the purposes only You can perceive. In the redeeming grace of Jesus Christ we believe, Amen.

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