

**Stewards of the Mysteries of God in 2021**  
**1 Corinthians 4:1-5**  
**December 27, 2020**

**I. Stewards of the Mysteries of God (V. 1-5)**

- A. Christian stewards are responsible for the mysteries of God (V. 1)
- B. Christian stewards are faithful with the mysteries of God (V. 2).
- C. Christian stewards are commendable for the mysteries of God (V. 3-5).

**II. New Goals for 2021 for Apollo to be Better Stewards of the Mysteries of God**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

## **Group Discussion Questions**

1. Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-5.
2. What does Paul mean by “the mysteries of God” (V. 1)? You may want to consult 1 Corinthians 2:7, Romans 16:25-27, Ephesians 3:1-6 for help.
3. Since a “steward” is sort of like a manager for a business owner, what are some qualities of a faithful manager in the business world? How can we apply that illustration to Christians being faithful with God’s truth?
4. Since Paul says to “judge nothing before the time” (V. 5), does that prohibit Christians from all forms of judgement? How do you know?
5. What are some examples of things about a person only God can judge?
6. Paul is very clear that ultimate commendation or condemnation for Christian leaders comes from God.
7. What are some ways the members of Apollo Baptist Church are stewards of the mysteries of God? What are some new or improved ways you hope to see the church steward these mysteries?
8. Pray for each other, that you would all, day by day, put salvation in God’s hands. Review the Prayer Guide about prayer needs throughout the congregation.

## **Church Bible Reading Plan**

Bible Reading Plan: 2 Samuel 7, 23:1-7, Isaiah 55, Acts 13:13-31

December Memory Verses: Hosea 11:8-9 and 14:1-3



**Hebrews 10:19-22**

**19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.**

**Our Vision: To create a culture of discipleship that leads to worship and compels us to be on mission.**

- PRAY for us as a church family to grow in our devotion and our discipleship.
- PRAY that we would be faithful in all our individual areas of ministry.
- PRAY that God will draw many to Himself in this difficult time.
- PRAY for YOUR ONE to be saved.
- PRAY for GriefShare as they continue on-line meetings.
- PRAY for the ASU West college ministry on break now, resuming in January
- PRAY for the Wednesday evening AWANA on break now, resuming in January
- PRAY for the need for Awana nursery helpers when in-person AWANA resumes
- PRAY for the people of Puluk in Indonesia to have the opportunity to hear and respond to the Gospel.
- PRAY for Dr. Doug and Cheryl D. to be able to return to their field of service soon.

**PRAY about the challenging  
December changes:**

- NO in-person Sunday School
- NO preschool/nursery anytime

**Our Mission: To Care as Jesus CARES:**

- PRAY for God's protection from the COVID virus.
- PRAY that we will love and encourage each other by reaching out to our membership.
- PRAY that God will continue to use the FOOD BOX MINISTRY to bring people to Himself and that we will keep the food pantry stocked.
- PRAY for the hospital workers, first responders and police officers to be drawn to God and to be filled with His strength, love, and ability.
- PRAY for all our schools/teachers/administrators/workers and parents in this school year with difficulties never before encountered.
- PRAY for us all to be a source of light in the darkness of racial prejudice.
- PRAY for our country and for us to be godly citizens.
- PRAY that we will each be faithful to give financially to Apollo Baptist Church so that we can have the funds to continue ministering.
- PRAY for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

**Our Church Family:**

- PRAY for Pastor Gary and our other pastors (Pastor Jim, Pastor Reginald, Pastor Brian) as they seek God's way to lead our church.
- PRAY for our intern, Juliana S., and her ministry to children and college students.
- PRAY for our deacons to be able to keep up with their families and contacts effectively.

**Pray For Our Church Family Needs:**

- Those struggling with fear, anxiety and employment issues because of the COVID
  - Raymond C. (missionary who had to return home due to COVID, struggling with housing and food)
- Church members and/or their friends/families who have COVID
- Families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones
  - Rebecca R. (brother), Ray and Sue J. (daughter-in-law, Lynette), Dan and Shirley S. (Dan's father), Nancy C. (father, Pete), April H. (husband, Gary), Ken R. (sister, Joan), Darlene R. (aunt, Peggy), Randie A. and Bonnie V. (mother), Tim, Alexa, and Erika P. (grandfather)
  - Grief Share participants
- Those struggling with cancer issues:
  - Mary C. (breast cancer), Brenda R. (blood cancer and possible donors of bone marrow), Leroy D. (his brother), Chris and Beth L. (3 yr. old daughter with inoperable brain tumor), Jerry M. (friend of Dan S. has pancreatic cancer)
- Those struggling with health issues:
  - Rezwana D. (migraines), Mary R. (possibly starting dialysis), Ruthie C. (severe weight loss), Jimmy (grandson of Raul and Cindy O. has autism and migraines), Larry D. (brain bleed not completely healed), Don R. (sciatica pain), Wayne and Twyla D. (Parkinsons), Floyd W. (Pat's dementia), Elaine D. (medication issues), Gretchen E. (father in rehab regaining strength), Duane W. (granddaughter's pregnancy), Anna (grandson has muscular dystrophy), Jose M. (sister miscarried), Bob B's mom (fractured vertebrae)
- Those awaiting surgery:
  - Brenda R. (bone marrow transplant), James M. (cleaning out the veins in his legs), Dave C. (shoulder surgery Dec. 28), Warren Y. (hernia surgery on Jan. 12)
- Those recovering from surgery:
  - Jonathan B. (hand surgery), Laura M. (vertebrae surgery and right arm movement), Dale O. (knee replacement), Susan K.'s son-in-law (recipient of liver transplant), Wanda H. (son, Derek), Ketty B's. (grandmother)
- Those struggling with family relational issues:
  - Julia B. (family), Ketty B. (friend), Marge D. (a son)
- Those needing employment:
  - Larry S., Billy H.
- Others that you are aware of