

**Answer Eleven:  
Seeing and Understanding the Spirit of God's Minister  
1 Corinthians 04: 14–21**

**1** *God's minister does not shame, but he warns his people as children*

14 I am not writing this to shame you, but to warn you, as my dear children.

**2** *God's minister shows a fatherly spirit, not an instructor's spirit*

15 Even though you have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

**3** *God's minister sets an unmatched example*

16 Therefore I urge you to imitate me.

**4** *God's minister provides for the growth of his people*

17 For this reason I am sending to you Timothy, my son whom I love, who is faithful in the Lord. He will remind you of my way of life in Christ Jesus, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every church.

**5** *God's minister wishes to be with his people*

18 Some of you have become arrogant, as if I were not coming to you.

a. He longs to help them

19 But I will come to you very soon, if the Lord is willing, and then I will find out

b. He expects to discipline — to handle the troublemakers

not only how these arrogant people are talking, but what power they have.

c. He will discipline because the Kingdom of God demands it

20 For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.

d. He appeals for self-correction

21 What do you prefer? Shall I come to you with a whip, or in love and with a gentle spirit?