



Key Scripture:

Proverbs 11:25 NLT

The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

Texting with clarity...

1 Corinthians 4:14-21 Message

14 I'm not writing all this as a neighborhood scold just to make you feel rotten. I'm writing as a father to you, my children. I love you and want you to grow up well, not spoiled.

15 There are a lot of people around who can't wait to tell you what you've done wrong, but there aren't many fathers willing to take the time and effort to help you grow up.

It was as Jesus helped me proclaim God's Message to you that I became your father.

16 I'm not, you know, asking you to do anything I'm not already doing myself.

17 This is why I sent Timothy to you earlier. He is also my dear son, and true to the Master. He will refresh your memory on the instructions I regularly give all the churches on the way of Christ. 18 I know there are some among you who are so full of themselves they never listen to anyone, let alone me. They don't think I'll ever show up in person. 19 But I'll be there sooner than you think, God willing, and then we'll see if they're full of anything but hot air. 20 God's Way is not a matter of mere talk; it's an empowered life.

21 So how should I prepare to come to you? As a severe disciplinarian who makes you toe the mark? Or as a good friend and counselor who wants to share heart-to-heart with you? You decide.

The Direction from Dad...

- ✓ Arrogant or **Intelligent**
- ✓ Materialistic or **Prosperous**
- ✓ Immorality or **Virtuous**

Good Measure

Luke 6:38 NKJV

Give, and it will be given to you: **good measure**, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. **For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.**"

Notes: _____

GENEROUS

Measure of a Good Father

The measure of a good father...

1. Set a good **example**.

1 Corinthians 4:16 Message

I'm not, you know, asking you to do anything I'm not already doing myself.

John 5:19 NLT

So Jesus explained, "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. **He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does.**"

2. Help others grow and become **responsible**.

1 Corinthians 4:14 Message

I'm not writing all this as a neighborhood scold just to make you feel rotten.

I'm writing as a father to you, my children. I love you and want you to grow up well, not spoiled.

3. **Show - up** in person.

1 Corinthians 4:18-19 Message

18...They don't think I'll ever show up in person. 19 But I'll be there sooner than you think.

4. Always **discipline** with love.

1 Corinthians 4:21 NLT

Which do you choose?

Should I come with a rod to punish you, or should I come with love and a gentle spirit?

Hebrews 12:10-11 NLT

10 For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how.

But God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in His holiness.

11 No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.

5. **Empower** and encourage

1 Corinthians 4:20 Message

God's Way is not a matter of mere talk; it's an empowered life.

Mark 1:10-11 NIV

10 As Jesus was coming up out of the water, He saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove. 11 And a voice came from heaven:

"You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Notes: _____
