A SPECTACLE

1 Corinthians 4:9-10 (KJV)
9 For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.
10 We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised.

1 Corinthians 4:9-10 (MSG)
9 It seems to me that God has put us who bear his Message on stage in a theater in which no one wants to buy a ticket. We're something everyone stands around and stares at, like an accident in the street.
10 We're the Messiah's misfits. You might be sure of yourselves, but we live in the midst of frailties and uncertainties. You might be well thought of by others, but we're mostly kicked around.

- Your job as an actor is to make the star look good:
  - the stage is the world
  - the script is the Word
  - the plot is redemption

1 Corinthians 4:1 (KJV)
1 Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.

- Paul speaks of two kinds of slaves:
  - MINISTERS – under-rows (facing the direction they came from, do not determine the direction of the ship)
  - STEWARDS (managing part of someone else's house, must be found faithful)

Exodus 29:4 (KJV)
4 And Aaron and his sons thou shalt bring unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and shalt wash them with water.

- Aaron was consecrated by washing at the door of the tabernacle, in view of the whole nation - we are being cleansed while we are trying to cleanse others

Isaiah 53:5 (KJV)
5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

- We are “wounded healers” – Jesus was wounded for our transgressions (wounds are open), bruised for our iniquities (bruises are hidden) - wounds are my deeds, transgressions are my “bent”

Romans 12:1 (KJV)
1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Romans 12:1 (MSG)
1 So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.

- “Present your bodies” is a technical term indicating the moment someone placed the sacrifice in the hands of the priest – they had to take their hands off of it!
- A “living sacrifice” chooses to stay on the altar!
- It all depends on whose hand it’s in!
  - Basketball – Michael Jordan
  - Tennis Racquet – Pete Sampras
  - Baseball Bat – Mark McGwire
  - Golf Club – Tiger Woods
  - Violin – Itzhak Perlman
  - Shepherd’s Rod – Moses *
  - Mud and Spittle – Jesus *
  - Slingshot – David
  - Five Loaves & Two Fish – Boy with lunch
  - Piece of Cloth – Woman with issue of blood
  - Three Nails – Jesus Christ
  - Your life … ?