

“First apostles” (1 Corinthians 12:28).



WE ALL WANT TO BE HUMBLE, but we don't like to be humbled—and talking with others about our faith can be a humbling experience, especially at first. It's like the story of the woman who said, “Oh, this just kills me!” when she was asked to go witnessing. It kills our pride, and that's exactly what it *should* do. The more God can get us and our egos out of the way, the more He and His love are able to shine through.

When you're out witnessing and begin to feel self-conscious or like people are looking down at you, it helps to remember that God is proud of you and you have every reason to be proud of Him and proud to be His messenger. The Greek word that is translated “apostle” in the New Testament is *apostolos*, literally “somebody sent out,” and in 1 Corinthians chapter 12, where Paul lists the jobs and offices of the Church, God puts His apostles at the top of His list. “First apostles.” You may be on the bottom of some people's list, but you're on the top of God's list! We're not to be proud of ourselves, as though we are something great ourselves, but we can be proud to be servants of the Almighty God, the Most High, His faithful messengers bearing His words to the people.