

“Living The Gospel Without Distractions”

New Hope Community Church
1 Corinthians 9:19-27 / September 5th, 2021

A. Paul Faced Many Discouraging Distractions

1. Division over the issue of meat sacrificed to idols (8:1ff)
 - **‘Knowledge makes arrogant, but _____ edifies’** (8:1)
 - **‘Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will _____ eat meat again’** (8:13)
2. Criticism over receiving financial support
 - **‘If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much if we reap material things from you?’** (9:11)
 - **‘Nevertheless, we did not use this right, but we _____ all things so that we will cause no hindrance to the gospel of Christ’** (9:12)
3. Debate over matters of Jewish law (9:20,21)
 - **‘To the Jews I _____ as a Jew . . . to those who are without law, as without law . . . so I may win more’**

B. Paul Was Resolved to Make Christ Known

1. ‘For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more’ (19)
 - **A slave has one purpose — “_____ his/her master”**
 - **He was willing to give up food, financial gain, and freedom from rules in order to prevent _____**
2. Paul enslaved himself, and so we are to do the same
 - **We have ‘been _____ from sin & enslaved to God’** R 6:22
 - **Therefore ‘_____ yourselves a living sacrifice’** (R 12:1)
 - **We must lay aside all things that _____ us** (Hb 12:1)
3. So while it is true that we have been made slaves, so it is also true that we must _____ live as slaves
 - **The goal in this is to make Christ _____ by our lives**
 - **‘I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow _____ of it’** (23)

C. Paul Refused to Be Derailed By Distractions (24-27)

1. Run to _____ the prize (24)
2. Keep your _____ on the prize (25,26)
3. Exercise _____ self discipline (27)

Personal Action How will we remain unified & undistracted?

- 1) Focus on _____ the Gospel
- 2) Be led by the _____ & Holy Spirit as to your response
Tit 3:1-9 / 1 Pt 2:13-25 / 1 Tim 2:1-8 / Ro 13 / Ro 14 / Ac 5:17-29
Mk 12:13-17 / Hb 13:17,18 / 1 Pt 4:12-19 / eg civil disobedience
- 3) Extend _____ to those who feel differently
- 4) Keep the main thing the main thing — _____!

Have I allowed anything to distract me? _____

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