

1 CORINTHIANS 9

The Word of the Cross is the Basis

...for the Church's **Unity** (chapters 1-4)

...for the Church's **Holiness** (chapters 5-7)

...for the Church's **Freedom** (Chapters 8-10)

A summary of Chapter 8: The Christian Life = Knowledge + Love

A summary of Chapter 9: Expect to receive support for ministry. Expect to sacrifice for ministry.

RIGHTS AS AN APOSTLE V.1-14

1. Read “between the lines” of verses 1-6. What false assumption did some have about Paul’s ministry that he defended?
2. Preachers of the gospel ought to receive their living from the gospel. (v.14)
 - a. An example from common sense (v.7)
 - b. An example from Scripture (v.8-11)
 - c. An example from church history (v.13)

A SPECIAL BOAST IN THE GOSPEL V.15-23

3. Why did Paul forego his right to receive assistance?
4. In what way might requiring support from the Corinthians have stood in the way between the Corinthians and Christ? What might be a parallel situation today?

5. What does it mean to be all things to all people? (v22)

In each instance, whom is Paul describing? How did he become “like them”?

- a. The Jews? b. those under the law? c. those not having the law d. the weak?

7:22 – For he who was a slave when he was called by the Lord is the Lord's freedman; similarly, he who was a free man when he was called is Christ's slave.

8:9 – Be careful, however, that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak.

9:19 – Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.

6. Discuss the difference between Paul’s encouragement in these verses (19-23) and “situational ethics.”

7. Write down one way this has application to Living Hope’s (YOUR) outreach.

SELF-DISCIPLINE FOR SELF AND SOULS V.24-27

8. What is Paul’s point of comparison between athletic competition and striving for heaven?