

Leverage Your Life **Make It Count!**

1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Leverage (verb): *using something to maximum advantage.*

Main Idea: God is Glorified as We Leverage our Lives for His Mission Everywhere We Live, Work and Play

“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved. Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.”

1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

3 Parts of Life to be Leveraged for the Kingdom in 1 Cor 10:31-11:1

I. Leverage My Interests for the Kingdom – “So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.” **1 Corinthians 10:31**

Paul has been addressing a serious problem with the Corinthian church in chapter ten. You see, the believers in Christ were so thrilled with the freedom they had been given in Christ Jesus that they had forgotten that life was not all about them! Paul had to remind them that life was to be lived to the glory of God and in service to others. Paul was saying that everything we do and everything we’re interested in (other than sinning) can be and should be leveraged for the mission of God!

What is your ‘Whatever’? Where do you live (address, neighborhood, community)? Where do you work (office, jobsite, school, zoom call)? Where do you play (gym, golf, run/jog, dog walking, larping)? It can be leveraged!!!

“But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I have received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.” **Acts 20:24 (Apostle Paul)**

II. Leverage My Interactions for the Kingdom – “Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.” **1 Corinthians 10:32-33**

“...not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.”
1 Corinthians 10:33 – We want our interactions to lead people to Jesus

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.” **Philippians 2:3-5**

Like those early believers Paul was writing to, we must shift our mindsets away from self-centered to being Christ-centered which means others-prioritized. This is how we leverage our interactions for God’s mission.

III. Leverage my Identity for the Kingdom – “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.” **1 Corinthians 11:1**

We all carry many labels and markers (man/woman, single/married, son/daughter, economics, ethnicity, career, hobbies, affiliations, etc.) But our identity is not found in any of these temporary titles. Rather our identity is in being made in the image of God and saved by the grace of God. This is our eternal identity and should inform all aspects of our earthly existence!

“Let temporal things serve thy use, but the eternal be the object of thy desire.”
Thomas a Kempis (The Imitation of Christ)

God has a plan for you that will glorify himself and make a difference in the world around you. He has and always will!

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the **race that is set before us**, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”* **Hebrews 12:1-2 – Jesus has set the race before you, so let’s go!**

Main Idea: God is Glorified as We Leverage our Lives for His Mission Everywhere We Live, Work and Play

The bottom line is that YOU MATTER to God and his Kingdom!!! God has made you in his image and saved you by his grace so that YOU can be a part of his mission on earth before enjoying heaven with him forever. HOW?

Quit trying to do it all alone and confining your faith to the walls of the church building. Recognize that our God is at work where you live, work, and play so you can join him in it!!! And, always remember...

“For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.”
Philippians 2:13 – It’s all God! From start to finish, it’s all his.

Surrender to Jesus as Savior and Lord, before leveraging your life for his Kingdom and Mission above all else.

Sources and Further Reading Opportunities:

- CSB Study Bible – Trevin Wax, General Editor (2021)
- New Bible Commentary – Carson, France, Motyer, & Wenham (1994)
- New American Commentary: 1 Corinthians – Mark A. Taylor (2014)
- Bible Exposition Commentary – Warren Wiersbe (1996)
- The letters to the Corinthians – William Barclay (1975)
- Tony Evans Study Bible – Tony Evans (2019)
- The Spurgeon Study Bible – Charles Haddon Spurgeon (2017)
- Word Pictures in the New Testament – A.T. Robertson (1933)
- The Imitation of Christ – Thomas a Kempis (1418)