

Week 15 Discussion Questions

Text: 1 Cor 9:1-18

Icebreaker: What are you hoping to see happen in your life this coming year?
Any resolutions for 2025?

1. Read this week's passage. What stands out to you from the text or from the sermon you heard Sunday?

2. In verses 1 through 14, Paul defends his rights even as he explains his rationale for not exercising them! What reason does he give for setting aside his rights?

Application: Can you think of a situation where you or someone else chose to set aside a right, perhaps to help someone else? Explain what happened.

3. Verse 12 expresses Paul's commitment to "endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ." In a general sense, what did Paul endure to proclaim the gospel? (For help, see 2 Cor 11:24-29)

Application: In what ways might a commitment to the gospel cost us today?

4. In verses 15-18, Paul details his rationale for not seeking his right of material support from the Corinthians. How would this have made Paul's ministry in Corinth more difficult?

What outcome was Paul seeking by presenting the gospel "free of charge" in Corinth even though it made his ministry more difficult?

Application: Under what circumstances do you think ministry should be "free of charge" in our day? Why?

5. *Application:* It's instinctual for us to insist on our rights, privileges, and entitlements. Are there areas of life where you may be clinging to "your rights" in a way that's an obstacle in your ministry?

For example, are you exercising a “right” that’s...

- ...hurting a relationship?
- ...limiting your investment into others’ lives?
- ...keeping you from giving more generously of your time and resources?

If you’re not sure how to answer, prayerfully ask the Lord to reveal this to you over time.

*Building Christ-centered communities of people fully devoted
to loving God and loving others.*