

Love • Liberty

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MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE

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Loving Self-restraint Expands Gospel Proclamation and Participation 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Paul willingly adopts any "household rules" so as to maximize gospel proclamation

1 Cor. 9:19 *For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them.*

Observing "household rules" he overcomes barriers of...

...ethnicity

1 Cor. 9:20a *"To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews."*

Acts 22:1-3 *"Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you. "And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said: "I am a Jew..."*

...religion

1 Cor. 9:20b *"To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law."*

Acts 21:26 *Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them.*

...culture

1 Cor. 9:21 *"To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law."*

Acts 17:27b-28 *"Yet [God] is actually not far from each one of us, for 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said..."*

...conscience

1 Cor. 9:22 *"To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak..."*

1 Cor. 8:12-13 *"Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble."*

Paul's goal prioritizes sharing the riches of the gospel as widely as possible

1 Cor. 9:22b *"I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings."*

How can I shift my thinking to be more like Paul's?

2 Cor.8: 9 *“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.”*

Forgiveness of sins forever — Eph 1:7	Permanently accepted by the Father — Rom.3:24
Adopted as beloved children — Eph.1:5	Inheritance of eternal life — Eph.1:11
Jesus is unembarrassed of us — Heb.2:11	The Holy Spirit as a guarantee — Eph.1:13-14
A new and ever-growing family — Rev.7:9	Healing of human divisions — Eph.2:14-22
Permanent access to the Father — Heb 4:16	The promise of Christ-like character — Rom.8:29
Help to overcome temptation — Heb. 2:18	The promise of a new, glorified body — Phil. 3:20-21
Victory over death — 1 Cor. 15:54-56	New relationship to suffering — Rom. 5:3-5
God is for us — Rom.8:31	And on and on and on...

Reflection & Discussion

1. Review the list of your “riches” in Christ, taking time to bask in the wealth of your new household. When you consider that Jesus became poor by entering into humanity as a servant to share his wealth with us, how does that make you feel?
2. Can you think of a time when you adopted “household rules” for the sake of the gospel? In which situations is this more difficult for you?
3. What groups or communities you could reach with the gospel by laying down your freedoms and adopting “household rules”? What hinders you from doing so?
4. Do you, at times, assume an “us vs. them” mentality? What can you do rid yourself of this thinking?
5. What hinders the church as a whole in this pursuit? What suggestions do you have to help address these hindrances?

SONGS

“We Praise You” – Brandon Lake, Brian Johnson, Matt Redman, and Phil Wickham

“Who You Say I Am” – Ben Fielding and Reuben Morgan

“Resurrecting” – Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Matthews Ntlele, Steven Furtick, and Wade Joye

“All Hail King Jesus” - Jeremy Riddle, Peter Mattis, Ran Jackson, and Steffany Gretzinger

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$25,569.32
WEEKLY NEED: \$35,272.00

YTD GIVING: \$1,444,780.44
YTD GENERAL NEED: \$1,516,696.00