

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO GIVE UP YOUR RIGHTS III

1 Corinthians 9:19-27

Ice Breaker: Describe a situation in which you felt different from others around you. How did you react?

BACKGROUND: Paul never altered the Gospel message, but he did alter his methods to enter their culture to reach them. He gave up his rights so they could hear the message.

THE BIG PICTURE: Even though it may be a challenge to reach our culture, we must do everything we can — by all means — to tell others the message about Jesus.

DIGGING DEEPER:

I WILLINGLY GIVE UP MY RIGHTS SO THAT OTHERS MIGHT KNOW JESUS

1 Corinthians 9:19

- Paul says, "When I walk into a culture, I accommodate people, I love people, I serve people so I might win as many as possible." Why did Paul become all things to all people? What was his purpose? What creative/effective things are you doing to reach people for Jesus?
- What do you need to do to set your agenda aside for His agenda? to lay down your life so others might see Him? step into places that might be uncomfortable and inconvenient so others might be comforted?

I WILLINGLY ADAPT TO CULTURE TO REACH THE UNSAVED 1 Corinthians 9:20-23

- Paul entered their world culture and tried to experience things from their point of view so that he might lead them to Jesus without compromising the message. Who are the groups of people that Paul mentions? What do you think he means when he says he became like one of them? What things would he have done to become like them? What can you learn from Paul's example?
- What are some of the groups of people that we might interact with today? How can you find common ground with everyone without compromising the message?
- What are you doing to build a bridge to the lost world? How are you influencing unbelievers in every day life?

I DENY MYSELF FOR THE SAKE OF THE MESSAGE 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- What disciplines are necessary to run a race well? What point is Paul making by comparing the Christian life to a race? How are you like an athlete in training? How does this apply to our lives?

CONCLUSION:

- What made Paul excellent in sharing the message with others?
- Why is it so difficult for us to give up our rights? What are you willing to give up to win more people to Christ?
- What are you doing to apply the principles you have learned this week?