
A Culture Of Confusion: A Study In 1 Corinthians

"A Servant's Life"

09-01-24

1 Corinthians 9:1-23

Introduction: As we work our way through 1 Corinthians, Paul is dealing with questionable things.

1. Last week the focus was on living a love your neighbor kind of life.
2. Here in chapter 9, he builds on that by focusing on how we should exercise our liberty in Christ.
3. Remember back in 1 Corinthians 6:12 we learned all things were lawful, but that doesn't mean they are profitable.
4. It may be wise to exercise our liberty by refraining for a greater good.
5. This is where Paul uses himself as an example.
6. As a servant of Christ, he had liberty, but he exercised it in a way that demonstrated his love for God and neighbor as well as his dedication to the ministry God had given him.
7. Our goal today is to allow Paul to teach us to be better servants of Christ.

I. Paul's Example

A. His Rights

B. His Reasoning

C. His Reaction

II. Paul's Instructions

A. Make Yourself A Servant

B. Adopt Your Life To Ministry

Conclusion: We live in a me first culture.

1. Christianity calls us to a life of servanthood.
2. This can be a struggle if you see your life as your own.
3. But it is not your own, you were bought with the shed blood of Christ.
4. You belong to Him and should present yourself to Him as a "living sacrifice."
5. Our culture would see that as bondage, but in reality, it's freeing.
6. Our culture would see that as miserable, when in reality it leads to life to its very full.
7. Remember, if we save life for ourselves ... we lose it, but if we lose life for Christ, we find it!