

**The Gospel Delivery**  
**1 Corinthians 9:19-27**

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**I. Winning souls. 1 Corinthians 9:19-23**

This is not saying Paul's message changed or that he compromised Biblical values; but Paul did not allow his \_\_\_\_\_ bias to interfere with reaching people for Christ.

- Don't let your lives and your lips preach two \_\_\_\_\_ messages.

**II. Run the race. 1 Corinthians 9:24**

*"An athlete must be \_\_\_\_\_ if he is to win the prize. Discipline means giving up the good and the better for the best. The athlete must watch his diet as well as his hours."* (Warren Wiersbe)

- The Lord deserves \_\_\_\_\_ in all we do for Him; in our worship, in our service and in our evangelism; but we are co-laborers with the Holy Spirit in order to accomplish the task.

**III. Receive the crown. 1 Corinthians 9:25**

**Temperate** means self-controlled; Strong's concordance says these were athletes, who in preparing for the games \_\_\_\_\_ from unwholesome food, wine, and sexual indulgence. (G1467)

- *"That is the emphasis of this entire chapter: Authority (rights) must be \_\_\_\_\_ by discipline."* (Wiersbe)

**IV. Bring my body into submission. 1 Corinthians 9:26-27**

Paul had an eternal perspective, so he counted this life as dead and his new life was going to be \_\_\_\_\_ for Christ's kingdom.

- *"Paul said he is not shadowboxing. He is not playing at this thing. He is not playing \_\_\_\_\_. This is real."* (McGee)

**V. Practical Application.**

- Because Paul was convinced of his call to preach the Gospel, he became a \_\_\_\_\_ to all to accomplish his mission.
- Because Paul was convinced of his call to preach the Gospel, he met people \_\_\_\_\_ they were at in life. **1 Corinthians 9:20**
- Because Paul was convinced of his call to preach the Gospel, he \_\_\_\_\_ in a way that he might please the Lord and receive a prize.

**Small Group Discussion**

*Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?*

1. Read **1 Corinthians 9:19**. In **1 Corinthians 9:19**, Paul states that he is free but also a slave. What does he mean?
2. Read **1 Corinthians 9:20**. How do you decide what parts of your testimony you will share with certain people? Are you willing to be vulnerable with your past in order to share Christ?  
**1 Corinthians 4:10, Romans 1:16, 1 Timothy 1:15, Psalm 22:22**
3. What does Paul mean when he says he is all things to all people? How is this different from being a people pleaser in a negative sense?  
**John 12:43, Galatians 1:10, Acts 5:29, Ephesians 6:5-9**
4. What are appropriate ways for you to accommodate yourself to unbelievers for the sake of the gospel?
5. What is the connection between **1 Corinthians 9** and Paul's discussion about meat offered to idols in **1 Corinthians 8**?  
What rights do you have that God may want you to give up?  
**Galatians 5:1, 1 John 4:1, Ephesians 6:13-18**
6. What is the "race" Paul talks about, and how should a believer prepare for this race?  
**Hebrews 12:1-2, 2 Timothy 4:7, Acts 20:24**
7. What might be considered encumbrances that hinder you from running your best race? What should you do about these?
8. Discuss the practical applications of the sermon.  
(some questions were taken from Warren Wiersbe)