

1 Corinthians 9:1-14 (September 18, 2022)

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

BIBLE PASSAGE STUDY QUESTIONS: READ 1 Corinthians 9:1-14

1. “Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus” (1 Corinthians 1:1). Some did not consider this to be true. Why should the Corinthian believers recognize Paul’s apostleship (Acts 9:15; 1 Corinthians 9:1-2; 2 Corinthians 3:2)?

2. From Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 4:12 and the following quote discuss what you learn about Paul’s occupation, ministry, challenges, and any other thoughts.

“We should leave aside any romantic notion about ‘tentmaking’ ministry in Paul’s case. Tents were made of leather, which was heavy to handle, foul smelling and very unclean to the handlers. Most likely Paul’s hand and arms were permanently stained. Paul’s trade included the repair of all manner of leather goods like saddles and boots. Furthermore, he plied his trade at night. Because of tentmaking Paul ‘endured all things’. For him tentmaking was a source of physical suffering since it was so arduous and exhausting. But in a society that despised work—especially manual work—as fit only for slaves, it was a source of his social rejection, including from the Christians in Corinth.”

(1 Corinthians-Holiness and Hope of a Rescued People p.153 by Paul Barnett)

3. What was the “right” Paul was referencing concerning himself?

Examine his justifications establishing that right:

-Human Analogies (v. 7)

-The Law (v. 8-11; Deuteronomy 25:4)

-Temple Service (v. 13; Numbers 18:21)

-Teachings of Jesus (v. 14; Luke 10:7; Galatians 6:6)

4. in what ways can you support those who proclaim the Gospel?

5. Why did Paul voluntarily give up his right (1 Corinthians 9:12)?

Recall his previous words, “But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak” (1 Corinthians 8:9). What was of utmost importance to Paul?

To what extent does his concern influence your decisions?