



Growth Group Discussion Guide

Passage: 1 Corinthians 9:19-27, 10:31-11:1

Introduction: In this passage the Apostle Paul describes how he approaches others for the sake of the Gospel. On the one hand Paul is free in Christ but on the other hand Paul is bound to Christ and his servant way of life. Ultimately this passage challenges us to consider how we follow Jesus as we engage others with the Gospel.



Into the Word

At the conclusion of this passage Paul says, “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ” (1 Cor 11:1) How is the Apostle Paul imitating Christ in this passage?

Consider: Philipians 2:5-8.

Paul says, “though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all”. (1 Cor 9:19). Is the Apostle Paul free or not? How does this passage help us understand the purpose of Christian liberty?

At the heart of Paul’s perspective is the doctrine of the incarnation; that the eternal Son of God became man in Jesus Christ. Read this [article](#). Discuss why is the incarnation a vital truth of the Gospel message.



Into the Heart

How would you describe Paul’s evangelism strategy in your own words? Does it excite you? Does it concern you? Why?

What rights or traditions do you find the most important for life and society? How does holding tightly to our rights or traditions hinder us from following Jesus in evangelism? Note: The Apostle Paul is not adapting his morality to fit the culture he is giving up human traditions and cultural expectations.



Into the World

Who are the unbelievers that God has placed in your life? (e.g. neighbors, coworkers, family, etc.) What aspects of your life might you need to let go of in order to follow Jesus in reaching them with the Gospel?

How might this attitude toward Christian liberty change the culture of our church? How might it change the way we engage in evangelism or outreach?