

INTRODUCTION

- * Paul's first epistle (letter) to the church of Corinth was written in order to assist them in dealing with various issues with which they were struggling.
- * Living in a hedonistic, licentious society can have an affect upon the "set-apartness" of the individual believer and gathering of believers.
- * Last week we considered Paul's discussion of subjection of a Christian's rights, or liberty, to the needs of a weaker brother.
- * Paul then transitions into a personal example of his sacrifice for them ... especially, in consideration of a weakness that they must have displayed..

INSTRUCTION**I. THE PROOF OF THE APOSTLE (v. 1-2)**

A. The S_____ (cf. Acts 1:21-22; Acts 9:3-7; Galatians 1:11-18; 1 Corinthians 15:8)

B. The S_____ (cf. John 3:26-33)

II. THE RIGHTS OF THE APOSTLE (v. 3-14)

A. D_____ (v. 3-6)

B. D_____ (v. 7-14)

1. APPEALING TO L_____ (v. 7)
2. APPEALING TO S_____ (9-14)

III. THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE APOSTLE (v. 15-27; 1 Cor 4:1-2)

A. His P_____ (v. 15-22)

1. HE PREACHED THE GOSPEL W_____ (v. 15-17)
2. HE PREACHED THE GOSPEL F_____ (v. 18-19)
3. HE PREACHED THE GOSPEL I_____ (v. 20-22)

B. His M_____ (v. 23)

C. His R_____ (v. 24-27)

1. AFFECTED HIS FOCUS (v. 24-26; Phil 3:10-15; Matthew 6:33)
2. AFFECTED HIS COMMITMENT (v. 26-27)

INTROSPECTION

- * WHAT IS THE FOCUS OF YOUR LIFE? IS IT CHRIST AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD?
- * IF THE FOCUS OF YOUR LIFE IS NOT CHRIST, ARE YOU WILLING TO CHANGE IT?
- * HOW COMMITTED ARE YOU TO PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL?
- * HAS YOUR COMMITMENT AFFECTED THE WAY YOU SPEND YOUR TIME AND MONEY?
- * ARE YOU TRULY IMPARTIAL IN YOUR CONSIDERATION OF OTHERS?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO "CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK" ... AND, THEREFORE, ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * There are some assemblies which do not believe that an elder, or pastor, should receive compensation. How does this passage apply to that situation?
- * How can we as a body stay single-focused upon seeking first the kingdom of God?
- * How can we as a body reach out to the various groups that are in our community?