

God's Beautiful Messy Church  
Week's Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:1-18  
Discussion Guide: June 19, 2022

**CHECK UP:**

Memory Work Review:  
I would like you to be free from concern. - 1 Corinthians 7:32a

What opportunities did you have to make sacrifices for the spiritual growth of someone else this past week?

**OPEN:**

- What stood out from this past week's reading?
  - o What do you still have questions about?

**READ and ASK: 1 Corinthians 9:1-18**

- What does Paul make a case for having a right to?
  - o On what two grounds does he claim such a right?
- Why might the Corinthians question Paul's authority?
- If Paul is forfeiting his right, why do you think he spends so much time making a case for it?
  - o Under what circumstances should we take advantage of our rights, and when should we willingly waive them?
  - o How can insisting on our rights harm the influence of the gospel?
    - For what reason does Paul give up his right in this text?
    - How do you feel about giving up your rights? How hard is it for you to sacrifice what's yours?
- In what ways can both Christian workers (who need support) and churches get in the way of one another?
  - o How do these situations look different if the motive is the same (the proclamation and growth in the gospel)?

**APPLY:**

- What is typically your motive when doing Christian service?
  - o What was Paul's motive? How does that challenge you?
  - o In this passage we see Paul's deep passion for preaching the Gospel. How would you describe your passion for serving God on a scale from 1 (couch potato) to 10 (Olympic gold medalist)?
  
- NEXT STEP: Is there a specific right you think you need to waive in order to have a gospel impact in a certain situation?

Memory Work:

For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach.  
Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! - 1 Corinthians 9:16

Next Week's Reading:

1 Corinthians 9:19-23