

Sacrificing For The Gospel Together: A Study of 1 Corinthians

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Key Truth: The gospel is valuable enough to compensate for sacrificing my earthly rights and rewards, knowing that in heaven, greater wealth awaits.

For the Apostle Paul, there is nothing more worthy in this life than the Gospel. One of the reasons why the Gospel is so valuable in this life is that it yields tremendous rewards in the life to come. In these verses, Paul's willing to give up earthly compensation because he knows that the Gospel is the pathway to infinite worth.

DISCUSS

Read 1 Corinthians 9:15-27 and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon on **Sacrificing For The Gospel**.

DIG IN

Do you agree from this passage that Paul exhorts the church to support its pastors financially? Why or why not?

1. The Gospel is a Personal Commission from God. (vv. 15-18)

Read verses 15-18: In what ways does Paul describe his responsibility to God in the gospel?

Why does Paul not make full use of his right to be compensated for his gospel ministry? How does this apply to us today?

2. The Gospel is the Pathway to Heavenly Blessings. (vv. 19-23)

Read verse 22: Does Paul appear to be compromising his integrity here? Why or why not?

In what ways can becoming "all things to all people" be abused? In what specific ways can this be carried out appropriately?

In what ways would Paul share in the gospel's blessings? What would those blessings look like?

3. The gospel is the "racetrack" to Imperishable reward. (vv. 24-27)

Describe the athletic metaphors Paul uses in these verses. In what ways would they be helpful in understanding Paul's teaching?

Share with the group an example of someone who had finished his race well. What habits do you think that individual employed to keep from being disqualified?

DO

Share with the group something the Lord has been leading you to sacrifice recently for the sake of the gospel. How do you plan to accomplish that task?