

LESSON 15: 1 CORINTHIANS 9:1-27

On Christian Liberty (cont'd)

1. Paul moves from his discussion of rights and freedoms based on knowledge to a discussion of rights based on position. What rights does Paul claim as a minister of the Gospel (9:1-7)? Why? What apostolic rights has he waived (vv. 3-6, 12)?
2. How does Paul defend his rights as an apostle (vv. 7-14)? Why has Paul waived his apostolic rights (vv. 15-18)? Why is he able to “boast” and expect a reward which he would not receive otherwise?
3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of having a minister hold a regular job to earn a living?
4. What insight do you get into Paul's motives and value system (vv. 12-18)?
5. What is Paul's definition of “happiness”?
6. What principles do you find in verses 19 and 22, and how should they be applied to your lifestyle among pagans?
7. To what discipline and training does an athlete submit? In what ways do you need to be in “strict training,” and what is “the prize” for which you should be running (vv. 24-27)? What spiritual exercises would help you run a good race?