

I H A V E B E C O M E
A L L T H I N G S
T O
A L L P E O P L E

1 C O R I N T H I A N S 9 : 1 9 - 2 3

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

“For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law; 21 to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law. 22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. 23 I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it” (NASB1995).

A L L
T H I N G S
T O A L L
P E O P L E

Paul'' and His Role: An Apostle

- Paul's role...
 - In the larger context of Scripture (1 Corinthians 1:1; Acts 9:15; 26:17-18)
 - In the context of Corinthians (1 Corinthians 9:1, 7).
- Paul's role framed his perspective.
 - He saw it as a privilege (see 9:14-15).
 - He saw it as a duty (9:16).
 - He saw it as a "reward" (9:18).

Paul” and His Aim: Salvation

- Paul’s goal was to “win” (9:19-22)
- “Winning”=“saving” (see 19:22)
- “Saving” requires “the gospel” (see 19:23)

Paul” and His Strategy

- He had to “*become all things to all men*” (9:22).
- This is not...
 - Bending our message (Galatians 1:6-10; 5:11).
 - Bending our morals (Romans 12:1-2).
- It requires sacrificing (9:5, 6-12) and serving (9:19).

The Principle Illustrated

- By Paul
 - *“to the Jews I became as a Jew”* (Romans 14:1-10)
 - *“to those who are under the law”* (Acts 10:15; 11:9)
 - *“to the weak I became as weak”* (1 Corinthians 8:9-13)
- By Jesus
 - With the Samaritan woman (John 4)
 - With sinners (Luke 5:27-32; 7:36-40; 15:1-2; 19:1-9)

Ten Practical Steps

1. Go where people are (Acts 16:13; 17:2).
2. Eat what other people eat (1 Corinthians 10:27).
3. Listen first to understand (James 1:21).
4. Be willing to study and start where they are (Acts 17:22-23).
5. Speak up to share the gospel (Acts 17:16-17, 22).
6. Respect their morally neutral customs (Romans 14:19-21).
7. Give up your time to serve/sacrifice for others (Col 4:5).
8. Make them a priority (1 Timothy 4:16).
9. Overcome prejudice—Peter/Paul did (Galatians 2:11-14).
10. Grow your passion for “winning” (1 Corinthians 9:22-27).

I H A V E B E C O M E
A L L T H I N G S
T O
A L L P E O P L E

1 C O R I N T H I A N S 9 : 1 9 - 2 3