

Message Notes

"But, they'll never take our freedom!"

Scripture Passages

(taken from the English Standard Version)

Introduction – Last Week

Knowledge AND what you do with that knowledge are BOTH crucial!

So, can I have a beer or not?!

THIS WEEK –

1. "I've got rights!"

a. "C,mon you're my peeps."
1 Cor. 9:1-2

b. "I am just like all the other Christians...kind of."
1 Cor. 9:3-7

c. The way God has ordered things. 1 Cor. 9:8-4

2. "I waive my rights!"

a. "It ain't about the money."
1 Cor. 9:15

b. What makes Paul tick?
1 Cor. 9:16-18

3. The flow of Paul's argument

4. What's this got to do with the price of cheese in China?

A guiding principle of 1 Corinthians 9:1-18

Application – "So, what now?"

1. We'll never take your freedom!

2. But, will you _____ _ _____?

1 Corinthians 9:1-18

9:1 Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? 2 If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you, for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. 3 This is my defense to those who would examine me. 4 Do we not have the right to eat and drink? 5 Do we not have the right to take along a believing wife, as do the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? 6 Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? 7 Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Or who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? 8 Do I say these things on human authority? Does not the Law say the same? 9 For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? 10 Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of sharing in the crop. 11 If we have sown spiritual things among you, is it too much if we reap material things from you? 12 If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we even more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ. 13 Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? 14 In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel. 15 But I have made no use of any of these rights, nor am I writing these things to secure any such provision. For I would rather die than have anyone deprive me of my ground for boasting. 16 For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! 17 For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. 18 What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

Galatians 5:13-14

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled on one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

John 10:17-18

17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

Philippians 3:8

8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.