

**Week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
**Sermon: Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

Study 9: Supporting Gospel Work

Readings: 1Corinthians 9

What would you be prepared to give up for the good news of Jesus to be more effectively proclaimed?

Read 1Corinthians 9:1 - 18:

Paul has moved from rights and freedoms based on knowledge and being careful not abuse that knowledge, to the topic of rights based on position.

What apostolic rights has Paul given up (9:4 -4, 11 - 12, 14, 18)?

How can receiving financial benefits, even a mere living, as a preacher sometimes hinder the gospel (9:12)?

Paul is giving up this right for a particular reason, on the other hand what responsibility does the church have to support gospel ministry?

What practical choices have you made in your life that might be hindering the spread of the gospel?

Read 1Corinthians 9:19 - 27:

How and why has Paul given up the freedom to live whatever lifestyle he prefers (9:19 - 23)?

How might we adjust our lifestyles in order to reach people in various sub-cultures?

How might being sensitive to a particular group's struggles for justice be part of this? What practical things can we do?

Can we go too far in the "contextualizing" of the gospel? Explain (For example, how about taking on the religious practices of Islam for the sake of Muslim evangelization?)

In giving up the rights mentioned in chapters 8 and 9, how are we like athletes in training (9:24 - 27)?

In these chapters the focus is on the other, the principle of love has been emphasized. How can you in practical ways live by this principle so that others may come to Christ?