

**Introduction** – *Badwater U.M.*

**A Study of 1 Corinthians**

Part IV: FREEDOM!

Week 1: Knowledge AND what you do with that knowledge are BOTH crucial!

Week 2: "I've got rights...but I choose not to exercise them."

THIS WEEK – 1 Corinthians 9:19-27

**"I have become all things to all people."**

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

- Dude is crazy! v. 19
- The process of becoming like another. v. 20-22
- Two reasons to do this. v. 23

The condescension of Jesus Christ

**"I pummel myself."**

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- Run rightly. v. 24
- There a big diff! v. 25
- "I pummel myself for good reason." v.26-27

**Application** – "So, what now?"

1. Have you made the decision to be on a mission with Jesus?
2. To what lengths are you willing to sacrifice your own \_\_\_\_\_, in order to help others experience God?

**1 Corinthians 9:19-27**

19For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. 21 To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. 24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

**Philippians 2:5-9**

5Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

**Acts 16:1-3**

1Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. 2 He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium. 3 Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

**Acts 21:23-26**

23Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; 24 take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law. 25 But as for the Gentiles who have believed, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality." 26 Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them.

**2 Corinthians 11:24**

24Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one.

# Badwater Ultramarathon







## **PART 4: FREEDOM!**

**~ WHAT IS IT?**

**~ HOW DO WE  
GET IT?**

**~ HOW DO WE  
PRESERVE IT?**

# Freedom #1

## 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that we all possess knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>The man who thinks he has arrived at knowledge, he does not yet know as he ought to know; <sup>3</sup>but the man who loves, this one truly knows.

# What is the principle of 1 Corinthians 8:1-13?

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

**“True gnosis (i.e. knowledge) consists not in the accumulation of so much data, nor even in the correctness of one’s theology, but in the fact that one has learned to live in love toward all.”**

**~Gordon Fee**



**DEFINITE MAYBE!**

# Freedom #2

**“I’ve got rights!”**

*1 Corinthians 9:3-7*

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?



# Freedom #2

**“I’ve got rights!”**

*1 Corinthians 9:8-14*

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.

# Freedom #2

**“I waive my rights”**

*1 Corinthians 9:15*

**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.

**THIS WEEK**  
**Freedom #3 (of 5)**

**“On a Mission with Jesus”**  
**1 Corinthians 9:19-27**

# “On a Mission with Jesus”

1 Corinthians 9:19-27

19 For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. 21 To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

# **“On a Mission with Jesus”**

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24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

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**2 Corinthians 5:15**

15He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.”



**“I have become all things to all people.”**

**1 Corinthians 9:20-22**

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**“I have become all things to all people.”**

**1 Corinthians 9:20-22**

What did it mean for Paul to become as a Jew?

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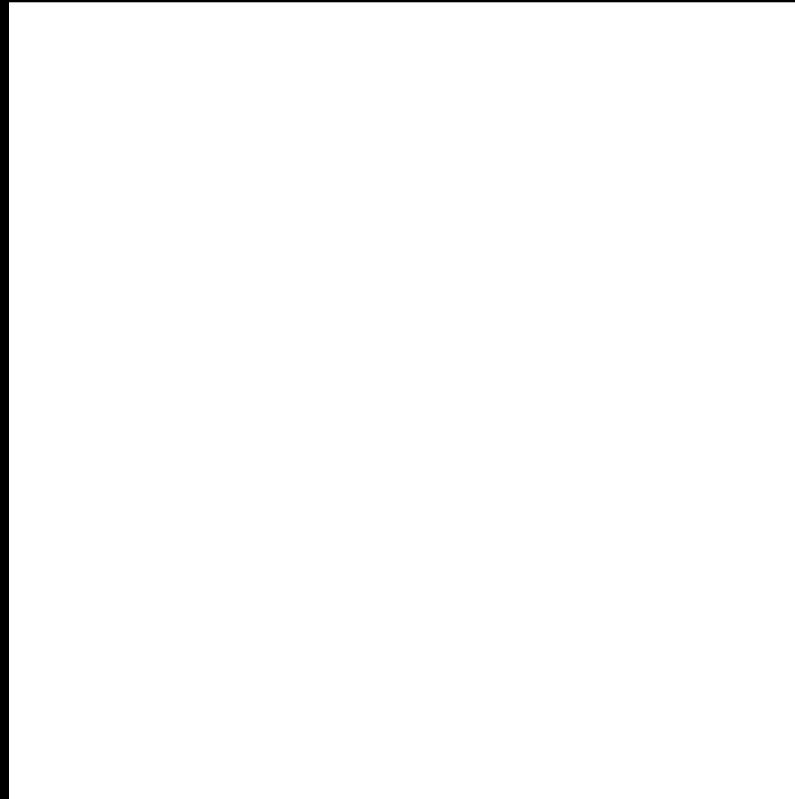
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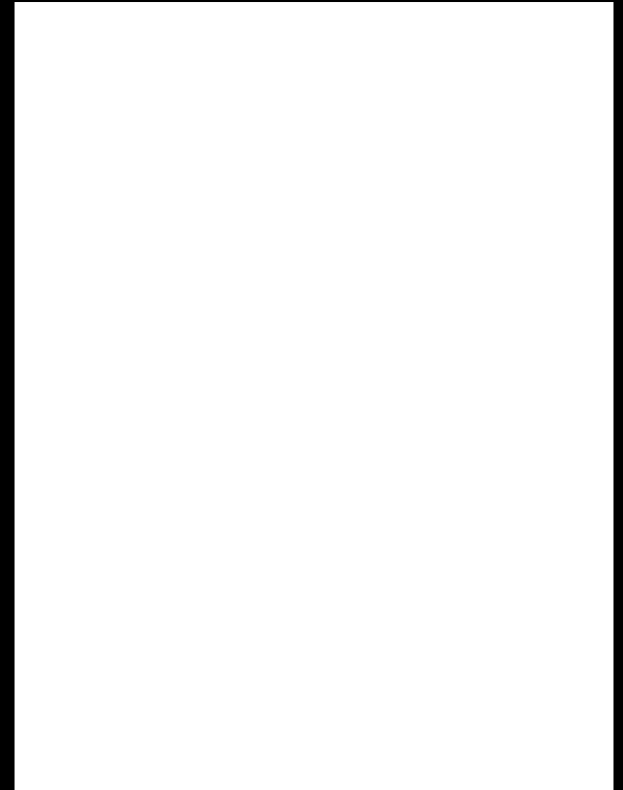
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**1 Corinthians 9:20-22**

What did it mean for Paul to become as a Jew?

**“Jews were given special privileges to settle their disputes in their own courts. If one wanted to stay a member of the Jewish community, one had to submit to its discipline. Paul accepted these penalties to keep open the option of preaching the gospel message in the synagogue. For Paul to submit to this punishment five times testifies not only to his mettle but also to his extraordinary sense of obligation to his people.”**

**~David E. Garland, Truett Seminary**



**“I have become all things to all people.”**

**1 Corinthians 9:23**

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**Philemon 4-6**

4I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, 5because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, 6and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for...

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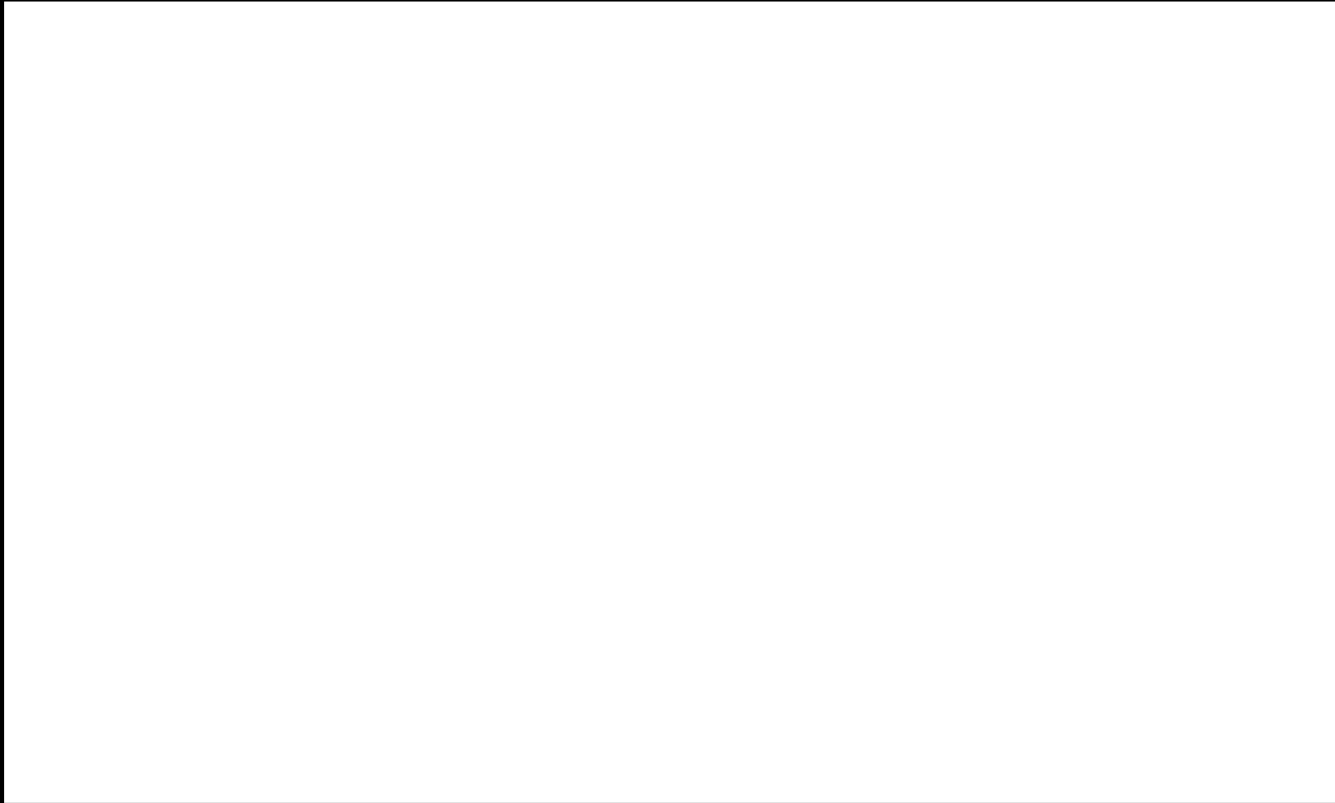
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**the full knowledge of every good thing  
that is in us for the sake of Christ.**

**“I pummel myself.”**

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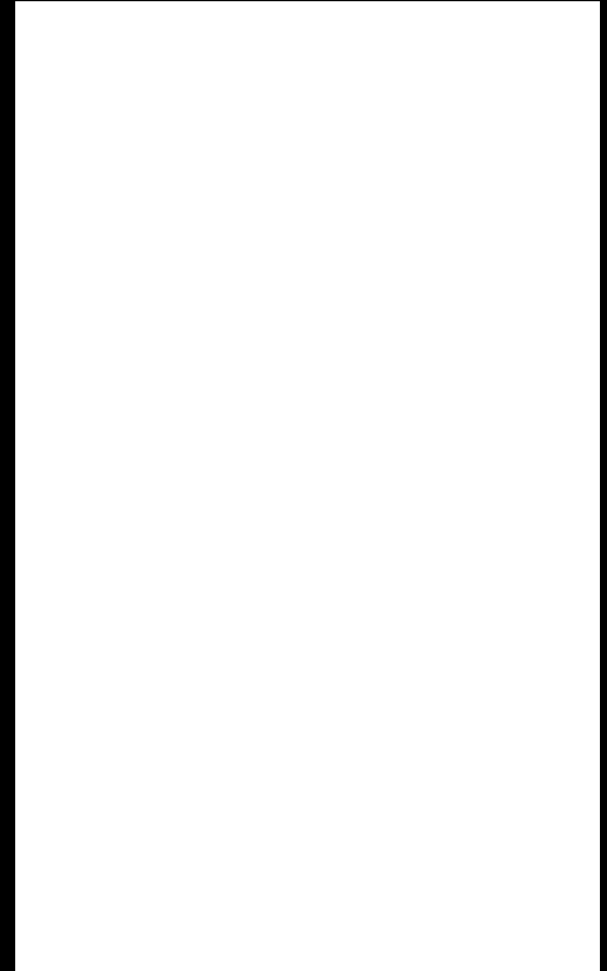
24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it.

The faith the justifies *necessarily* sanctifies.

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