

LIFE GROUP notes

07 September

Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: 1 Corinthians – week 16



Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member what the Word of God says about the Good News of Jesus Christ in 1 Cor. 15:1 – 4?
2. What are Paul's words in v.16b? (**Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel.**)
3. What are Paul's words in v.19? (**For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them.**)
4. What did Paul do to serve the Jews in v.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 that I might win those under the law.**)



Let's go deeper

5. What are Paul's words in v.22b? (**I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some.**)
6. What is Paul's motivation in v.23? (**I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.**)
7. What is an important component for an athlete according to v.25? (**Every athlete exercises self-control in all things.**)
8. What is Paul's encouragement to the church in v.27? (**But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.**)



Let's apply this

9. 1 Corinthians 9:19, 22 – 23; For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. **v.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. **v.23;** I do it all for the sake of the gospel...

- How would you explain the good news of Jesus Christ?
- How can you serve the people in your place of work, or in the city?
- What are things in your culture that you can reject, receive, redeem?
- What are some important spiritual disciplines you need in your faith journey?

SUMMARY:

Week 16 – Missional Ministry

Read: 1 Corinthians 9: 15 – 27

How can we serve our city; how can we love people in our city and what do we have that we can contribute to our city? The answer is the Good News of Jesus Christ. He is the gift that our city needs the most.

v.15 – 18; Paul reminds us to preach and present the gospel, but what is the Gospel message? 1 Cor.15:1 – 4; helps us to understand that the Gospel message is Christ died for our sins, He was buried, He was raised on the third day according to the scriptures and He appeared to Cephas and the twelve and many others.

The bad news is that we are sinners, separated from God and sinners can't build good families, cities, and world because of sin and although sin is the problem, the good news is that Jesus Christ died for sin, forgives sin and makes us new creations.

v.19 – 23; The message of the Gospel never changes, but the methods and strategies can. Why are there four gospels? The good news of Jesus was written to four primary cultural groups. **Matthew** was written to Jews with Jesus as the fulfilment of Old Testament Messianic prophecies. **Mark** was written to the Romans who was not too bothered about history, etc. they just wanted to know if Jesus as Messiah finished His work. **Luke** was written to Gentiles, with the lineage and history back to Adam the first sinless human being. Luke explains that God became a man, and deals with the life of Jesus. **John** was written to Greeks and what John does is he takes the concept of word and logos, and he applies it to Jesus so that all the philosophers would understand in the Greek culture who Jesus was and did.

How can we impact and influence our culture?

Reject – there are things in our culture that we must reject, and these are sinful things in our culture. See Galatians 5:19 – 21 and Colossians 3:5 – 10.

Receive – there are things in our culture we can receive, these are good things to be in our city like a concern for the environment, we are to be good stewards of God's creation. Things like caring for the poor, orphans, arts, music, technology, internet.

Redeem – there are things in our culture we must redeem, these are things that were used for good, but have been corrupted by sin for example: sex, money, power, marriage, gender, alcohol, etc.

v.24 – 27; Paul reminds us to keep our eyes on Jesus, and to discipline ourselves like an athlete. Our spiritual life is to be run and lived with discipline. Athletes train, Christians devote themselves to prayer, the word of God, breaking of bread, to fellowship, repenting of sin, disciplining themselves to run / live well.