

CHRISTIAN MATURITY

(08/10/2025; 1 Corinthians 9:1-27; Steve Thiel; Christ Proclamation Church)

Sermon Theme: God calls believers to give up their rights, adjust their preferences, and discipline their lives so that others might believe in Jesus. When we lose our lives for the gospel, we ensure that we have truly been saved and will not be disqualified. Therefore, we must prioritize being all things to all people so that we might win some for Christ!

I. Mission Motivation – Read 1 Corinthians 9:1-18

- A. What are some of the “rights” that Paul could have used but refrained from doing so?
- B. In what ways do we see Paul ministering to others without strings attached?
- C. How do we keep from sharing the gospel only with those who are like us or whom we think might benefit us or the church?

II. Mission Strategy – Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

- A. As you review Paul’s mission strategy, what is his consistent goal?
- B. Romans 5:9 says that having been justified by Christ’s blood, “We shall be saved from the wrath of God to come.” As you think about that truth, what actions, attitudes, and priorities would demonstrate that a person believes that the wrath of God is coming?
- C. What do you think it looked like for Paul “to become a Jew in order to win Jews”? What would it look like for you to become all things to all people to win them?
- D. Where do you struggle most with accommodating people? Selfishness with your time? Judgmentalism? Pride? Irritation? How would you like to grow in accommodating people?

III. Mission Purpose – Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- A. According to Paul, what’s at stake in having mission clarity and a biblical mission strategy?
- B. What would you say are some characteristics of a mature Christian? How is this text helpful in prioritizing what maturity looks like in a believer’s life?
- C. Who do you hope to win to Christ? What is your motivation for why you hope to win them to Christ? What are your next steps at sharing the gospel with them?