

Segment	Occasion	Chapter	Theme
Divisions in the Church <small>Concern</small>	Answer to Chloe's Report	1	The Message of the Cross
		2	Wisdom for the Mature
		3	Building on the Foundation of Messiah
		4	The Scum of the World
Disorder in the Church <small>Condemnation</small>	Answer to Report of Sexual Immorality	5	Church Discipline
		6	Lawsuits and Sexual Sin
Difficulties in the Church <small>Counsel</small>	Answer to Letter of Questions	7	Marriage, Singleness, and Divorce
		8	Food Sacrificed to Idols
		9	All Things to All People
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Knowledge versus Love

1 Corinthians 8:1-3

- 1 Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge (γνῶσις).” Knowledge puffs up, but love (ἀγάπη) builds up (οἰκοδομέω). 2 If anyone imagines that he has known something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. 3 But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

No Idols in the World

1 Corinthians 8:4-6

- 4 Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “there is no idol in the world,” and that “there is no God but one.” 5 For although there are said to be gods whether in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”— 6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Messiah, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

Don't Cause Your Brother to Stumble

1 Corinthians 8:7-13

- 7 However, not all [believers] possess this knowledge (ἡ γνῶσις). But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience (συνείδησις), being weak (ἀσθενής), is defiled. 8 Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. 9 But take care that this right (ἐξουσία) of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block (πρόσκομμα) to the weak. 10 For if anyone sees you who have knowledge (γνῶσις) reclining at table (κατάκειμαι) in an idol's temple, will he not be built up (οἰκοδομέω), if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? 11 And so by your knowledge this weak person is ruined (ἀπόλλυμι), the brother for whom Messiah died. 12 Thus, sinning (ἁμαρτάνω, pres.) against your brothers and sisters and assaulting (τύπτω, pres.) their conscience when it is weak, you sin (ἁμαρτάνω, pres.) against Messiah. 13 Therefore, if food causes my brother stumble (σκανδαλίζω, pres.), I will never eat meat (κρέας), in order that I may not cause my brother stumble.

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1 Corinthians 9

Paul's Credentials as an Apostle

1 Corinthians 9:1-2

- 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 [Jesus]? 2 If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you, for you are the seal (σφραγίς) of my apostleship (ἀποστολή) in the Lord [Jesus].

The Rights Paul May Exercise

1 Corinthians 9:3-12

- 3 This is my defense (ἀπολογία) to those who are examining (ἀνακρίνω) me. 4 Do we not have a right (ἐξουσία) to eat and drink? 5 Do we not have the right to take along a sister-wife, as do the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord [Jesus], and Cephas [Peter]? 6 Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right not to work? 7 Who serves in the army at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Or who shepherds a flock and does not eat from the milk (γάλα) of the flock? 8 Do I say these things on human authority? Does not the Torah say the same? 9 For it is written in the Torah 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 certainly speak for our sake? It was written for our sake, because The plowman plows in hope, and the thresher in hope, of sharing in the crop. 11 If we have sown spiritual things (τὰ πνευματικά) among you, is it too much if we will reap material things (τὰ σαρκικά) from you? 12 If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we even more?

Paul Foregoes These Rights

1 Corinthians 9:12-15

- 12 Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right (ἐξουσία), but we endure (στέγω, pres.) all things rather in order that we may not cause some hindrance (ἐγκοπή) to the gospel of Messiah. 13 Do you not know that those who work (ἐργάζομαι, pres.) the things of the temple (τὰ ἱερὰ) eat from the things of the temple (τὰ ἐκ τοῦ ἱεροῦ), and those who serve at the altar (θυσιαστήριον) share in the sacrificial offerings (συμμερίζω, pres.)? 14 In the same way, the Lord [Jesus] commanded (διατάσσω, aor.) those proclaiming (καταγγέλλω) the gospel to live (ζάω, pres.) from the gospel (ἐκ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου). 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 (ἀποθνήσκω, aor.)—so that no one will deprive me of my boasting (καύχημα).

The Necessity of Proclaiming the Gospel

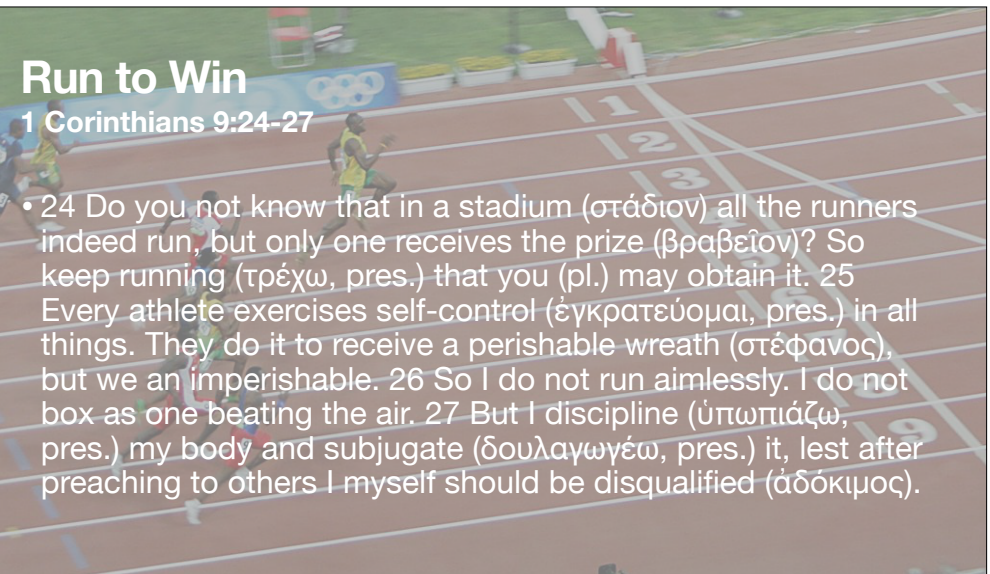
1 Corinthians 9:16-18

- 16 For if I proclaim the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! 17 For if I practice this willingly, I have a reward (μισθός), but if not willingly, I have been entrusted with a commission (οίκονομία). 18 What then is my reward (μισθός)? That in announcing good news I may proclaim the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

All Things to All People

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

- 19 For though I am free from all (ἐκ πάντων), I have made myself a slave (δουλόω, aor.) to all, that I might gain the more. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order that I may gain Jews. To those under Torah I became as one under Torah (though not being myself under Torah) that I might gain those under Torah. 21 To those outside Torah (ἄνομος) as one outside Torah (not being outside the Torah of God but under the Torah of Messiah) that I might gain those outside Torah. 22 To the weak I became weak, that I might gain 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, in order to become its copartner.



Run to Win

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- 24 Do you not know that in a stadium (στάδιον) all the runners indeed run, but only one receives the prize (βραβεῖον)? So keep running (τρέχω, pres.) that you (pl.) may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control (ἐγκρατεύομαι, pres.) in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath (στέφανος), but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly. I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline (ὑπωπιάζω, pres.) my body and subjugate (δουλαγωγέω, pres.) it, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified (ἀδόκιμος).

Application

1 Corinthians 8-9

- Be situationally aware and adaptable.
- Prioritise your brothers and sisters and the advance of the gospel.
- Run your race with focus and purposefulness.

