

## Bible Reading

1 Corinthians 9: Ministers who Finish the Race Pastor Mike

1. What does Paul refer to 3x in the opening two verses? (vv. 1-2) Why might he be calling attention to this with the Corinthians? If there was any dispute in their minds about his apostleship, what were they to remember? (v. 2).
2. What rights does Paul claim belong to him and every other apostle? (vv. 3-6)
3. What three lines of argument does Paul use to defend the payment/support of apostles or ministers?  
v. 7  
  
vv. 8-10  
  
vv. 13-14
4. Why did Paul not use his right to earn a salary for his spiritual labors (v. 12)? Should all pastors be expected to be bivocational to support themselves? Why or why not?
5. Since Paul is not ministering for money, what is it that motivates Paul to preach the gospel? (vv. 15-17) What stewardship does he refer to in verse 17?
6. How does Paul define the reward he mentions in vv. 17-18?
7. What was Paul committed to doing for the sake of the gospel (vv. 19-22)? Name the four categories Paul became for the sake of the gospel. Does Paul say we can cast off law if necessary for the sake of the gospel? Is Paul saying anything goes as long as the gospel gets out? (Read v. 21 again).
8. What does a runner do to increase his chances of winning the race? (vv. 23-25) How does this example of a race help us understand sharing the gospel?
9. What does Paul say he must do in order to increase his chances of winning (v. 27)? What might a modern Christian do to increase his chances of finishing well?
10. What danger faces those who are not careful to guard their testimony? (v. 27) Did Paul mean that he would be cast away by God? If not, what?