

## LIFEGROUP RESOURCES: 01.12.25 Pulpit Curriculum

Woe to Me: The Necessity of Gospel Witness Main Passage: 1 Corinthians 9:15-18

## 1) The Context of 1 Cor. 9- Paul releasing his rights

[Phil. 2:5-8]

- Paul spent 18 months in Corinth where he was despised. He wrote to the Corinthian church to defend his apostolic ministry and explain to the church that he was going to imitate Christ by laying down his rights: to abstain from marriage and to not be paid by the church.
  - A. What personal rights/freedoms would you give up for the cause of Christ so that He may receive more glory?
- 2) <u>The Privilege of Evangelism- Paul's problem or ours?</u>

[1 Cor. 11:1]

- Where the example of Paul meets the life of Christ that is something that all believers must do as well. Thus, evangelism is a necessity that has been laid upon each Christian.
- When we borrow from the ideologies from this world, such as our personalitytype, it limits us from fully walking out what God has commanded all Christians to do, which is to go into all the world and preach the gospel. We must see evangelism through the lens of God's power and God's purposes and be obedient to His commands.
  - B. We all fall short in many ways and there is grace for areas of weakness and inadequacies, but we should never become victims of our shortcomings or make excuses that keep us from evangelizing. What barriers or distractions are hindering you from evangelism? How can someone in your Lifegroup pray for you regarding this?
  - **C.** What lie are you perhaps believing that is keeping you from fully trusting in God's grace to empower you in the ministry of evangelism?



**D.** Christ does the work in our evangelism efforts, but we must yield ourselves to Him and fully trust His power as He uses our life and our voice to reach the lost. What attribute of God do you need to meditate on to strengthen your faith in His ability to give you the boldness to be obedient? List some scriptures that would bolster your faith.

## 3) Evangelism is Necessary for all Christians

[Phil. 3:12; Rom. 1:14-17; Rom. 13:8; Rom. 5:5]

- The preaching ministry was an absolute necessity for Paul because it was divinely laid upon his shoulders by God. In the same way, Christ has called every believer to take up their cross and follow Him in obedience and service. Let's live to proclaim the glory of the cross!
  - A) Necessity is laid upon me (v. 16)
  - B) Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel (v. 16)
  - E. As a follower of Christ, there is an obligation and commitment made to Christ to proclaim His excellencies to the world because of His love freely given to us. We owe a debt of this love to the world. Who in your life do you need to intentionally share the love of Christ and His glorious gospel to? Who in your Lifegroup can encourage you?
  - F. On that final day when you stand before Christ, will you tell Him that you feared dirt that He formed more than the Creator of the Universe to whom we are ultimately accountable? How might fear of man be hindering you from evangelizing the lost?
  - **G.** In light of hearing the story of John Rogers walking past his wife and 11 children on his way to be burned at the stake for his proclamation of the gospel, what in your life would hold you back from following in his bold footsteps?