

ENCORE Discoveries

From last week:

*We daily live in a tension: **God's grace** frees us to choose as we please, but **God's love** requires us to ask questions of conscience about our choices.*

1. How does this tie in with this week's theme of "sacrifice"?
2. The key challenge in today's verses is to attempt to *WORSHIP WITH* _____.
3. What do you think "sacrifice" means?
4. Discuss some things that might "have a more pressing claim" than certain rights we have as Christians.
5. What specific freedoms did Paul give up in these verses?
6. Why do you think he passed up his right to do those things? (You may want to look at I Corinthians 7:32 & 35, and 9:18.)
7. We don't have the right to give up our freedom, because this freedom was purchased by Christ (Galatians 5:1); but we do have the freedom to give up our rights. According to verse 12, why did Paul do that?
8. Our Christian rights + the surrendering of our rights = true worship. Does this accurately define this passage of Scripture?

Theme: Worship with Sacrifice

Monday

What is appealing to you about Paul's freedom?

Tuesday

Have you ever tried to exert your freedom by rebelling against authority? If so, how did God deal with you about it?

Wednesday

Do others find grace and freedom in your attitudes and actions?

Thursday

How would others describe your willingness to sacrifice your Christian freedoms or "rights" on their behalf?

Friday

What are you finding most difficult to sacrifice for the sake of the gospel? Tell a close friend about your struggle and ask him or her to pray with you about it.

Saturday

"Heavenly Father, as I continue to learn about authentic worship help me to sacrifice my rights, my social freedoms, and my relational potentials. May I realize afresh that the greatest claim on my life is the needs of others. Help me to surrender self for their sake."
