

## 1 Cor 9.1-23

### What Will You Do With Your Freedom?

#### Paul's "Yes...but..." argument

Paul's question throughout chapters 6-9 is similar to William Wallace's, "Yes, you are free, but what will you do with that freedom?"

#### Freedom is a good thing

<sup>1</sup> *Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord?*

#### But it is best used to serve others

*But we did not use this right. On the contrary, we put up with anything rather than hinder the gospel of Christ.... I do all this for the sake of the gospel,*

#### That's the example Jesus gives us

<sup>3</sup> *Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others... (Phil 2:3-11)*

#### And he calls us to do the same

*As an expression of our love for him*

Like children we can only offer back to God what he has first given us.

*And to set us free to change the world*

This is a classic missionary passage, <sup>20</sup> *To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law ... I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.*

#### What does that look like for you?

What does it mean for you to put others first for the sake of the gospel? How far out of your comfort zone are you willing to go to serve someone else in Jesus' name?