

Have It HIS Way
1 Corinthians 10:23-33

The Christians in Corinth _____ rather than _____ the culture around them. Paul was concerned that they were a self-centered bunch. Paul challenged their “_____” approach to faith.

The Corinthian church knew the clear message of the gospel—that Christians are _____ from the bondage of believing that we must earn eternal life by doing certain rituals and good deeds. But they had taken their freedom _____. They had begun to act on the belief that they were free to do anything they wanted. They believed they were free to live a “me first” kind of life. Their slogan, which Paul repeats back to them, is “I have the _____ to do _____.”

Paul reminds them and us that, as followers of Christ, “_____” is not the standard by which we are to live. What is “allowable” isn’t Jesus’ bar for us. God’s word says, our bar, our goal, is to do what is “_____” and “_____.”

These two words in the original language are _____ words. They are _____ words. The 1st one literally means “to bring together,” like pooling resources for the benefit of everyone. The 2nd word combines the word for _____ or family with the word meaning “_____,” so “to build up the family.” The bar God’s word sets for our behavior is to bring together our strengths, resources, and abilities and to build up the family of God.

It’s so easy for us to slip into the spirit of the Corinthians’ day, of our day, and think almost exclusively of our own _____, our own _____, our own _____. Then we start to ask, “What is the _____ I have to do? I can’t worry about other people’s needs or feelings. They can worry about themselves.”

The challenge of God’s word to each of us is to be able to say with Paul: I am not seeking _____ good but the good of _____, so that they may be _____. Is that the testimony of your life before your Lord who didn’t seek His own good so that you could _____?