

Give My All

Today's Reading

1 Corinthians 9:1-27

In our current devotional series, we are posing the questions:

1. "To what will I give myself in life?"
2. "In what ways does God want to stretch me in life?"

Certainly, a biblical answer to the second question is that God wants to equip you for and stretch you in the area of reaching out to people in need of Jesus.

Paul serves as a good example for us to consider. He said, "I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some." If you adopt that kind of mentality, the three "alls" in that verse reveal areas that may need some work.

- **"...become all things"**
That meant personal **sacrifice** for Paul. The early part of the chapter indicated that he refrained from marriage and from asking for compensation. Regardless of the personal price tag, he was willing to pay it in order to get the

gospel out. Will personal sacrifice be part of God's plan for you for the year ahead? Will it require you to give up an evening of the week, cross the street, or consider a short term missions trip?

- **"...to all people"** Paul saw **every person** in every encounter as one in need of the gospel. It didn't matter if they were Jew or Greek, slave or free... every person needed to hear what Christ had done! Do you see the teller at the bank, your family doctor, the person at the checkout, and those you randomly encounter as ones in need of Christ?
- **"...by all possible means"** Paul saw the need for flexibility. He was willing to adapt his approach. He was willing to try a different method. In a world filled with change, how will you take the timeless message and insert it with relevance into modern time and real life situations? You might need to do it differently than you did it yesterday.