

1 CORINTHIANS 9:19-23

7/10/10

How effective are you in representing the Kingdom of God?

the Father and Son?  
God's saving grace?  
God's spiritual law?  
the Bible?  
the gospel message?

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1 Cor. 9:19            though I be free from all men, yet I have made  
                         myself a servant unto all -- that I might gain  
                         the more  
2 Cor. 4:5            for we preach not ourselves -- but we preach Christ Jesus  
                         -- we are your servants for Jesus' sake  
John 5:19-30           Christ -- sought the Father's will -- had correct  
information and the correct approach  
John 10:17-18        Christ -- I willingly lay down my life  
Matt. 26:38           Christ -- was sorrowful unto death  
                         39-44            prayed honestly  
                         53                could have requested 12 legions of angels

\*        Examples -- correct information, wrong approach

Luke 9:54-56        James and John -- had correct information, but they  
                         had the wrong approach  
Luke 11:42          Pharisees -- had correct information, but they had the  
                         wrong approach -- they passed over judgment and  
                         the love of God

\*        Examples -- good approach, bad information

Judges 11:31        Jephthah -- had an honorable approach (his heart  
willing was willing to give a burnt offering), but he made a bad  
decision  
Luke 22:33          Peter -- honorable goal -- lacked information  
1 Thes. 4:13-17 Paul -- had a good approach -- but he had the wrong  
                         information

\*        Combination -- information & approach

Matt. 22:37        relationship with God -- love God with your heart,  
soul and mind  
Matt. 22:39        self-respect -- love your neighbor as yourself

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1 Cor. 9:20-22      Paul sought to understand his audience -- Paul  
                                 sought to adapt to his audience

- \*      Unto the Jews, I became as a Jew
- \*      To them that are without the law, as without the law  
                                 -- (of course, I never really forget about the  
                                 law of God; in fact, I am ruled by the law of  
                                 Christ)
- \*      To them who are weak, I became as weak

  

- \*      Different countries
- \*      Different states
- \*      Big city -- small town
- \*      People in any city -- people away from any city
- \*      Senior citizen -- teenager
- \*      Blue collar -- white collar
- \*      Catholic -- Lutheran -- Baptist -- Pentecostal
- \*      Hindu -- Muslim -- Buddhist

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1 Cor. 9:23      I do this for the gospel's sake -- that I might  
                                 be a partaker with you