

SHARING IN THE BLESSING

Although I am free from all and not anyone's slave, I have made myself a slave to everyone, in order to win more people ... I have become all things to all people, so that I may by every possible means save some. Now I do all this because of the gospel, so that I may share in the blessings.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:19, 22B-23, CSB

Paul was so devoted to winning people to Christ that he willingly brought himself low—to the point of referring to himself as a servant—in hopes that God may save some. He did whatever he had to do to remove barriers that may have prevented people from believing and trusting in Christ by wholly giving of himself to the needs and service others. It is paradoxical that Paul sees the giving of himself as "sharing in the blessings." While our sin nature tells us to hoard our time, talent, treasures and even the good news for our own joy and blessing, there is great benefit for both the hearer and the proclaimer of the gospel. May we seek to share in the blessings to be had when we become all things to all people in order to save some.

Pray God would help you identify one way you could "become all things" to your *one* that He might save them. In what ways may the Lord be calling you to serve your *one* in order to remove barriers?