

CARING FOR SHEPHERDS

1 Corinthians 9.1-14

THE MOTIVE TO CARE

1 Corinthians 9.1, 2 // 2 Corinthians 10.10-12

The Corinthian culture would pay various leaders, but not out of generosity, but for control and manipulation. Though Paul had a biblical right to be taken care of for his Gospel work, he understood that taking their money would put him “in debt” to them.

PROVIDING FOR PROVIDERS

1 Corinthians 9.3-14

Paul agrees that he has the right to be provided for since he provides them with spiritual nourishment. Commentator David Prior mentions 5 angles Paul pursues.

- **Ordinary Practice:** People who provide should be provided for.
- **Scriptural Precedent:** The Law of Moses (**Deuteronomy 25.4**)
- **Common Sense:** Even animals aren’t muzzled!
- **Religious Custom:** Both Jewish and pagan ministers are cared for.
- **The Words of Jesus:** Probably thinking of **Matthew 10.10**

Clearly this was not written for oxen since oxen can’t read!
-Martin Luther

GOD’S (AND PAUL’S) PASSION FOR HIS WORD

Paul says that Gospel workers should be taken care of, yet he himself denies care. Why, and which is it? The common denominator in this seeming contradiction is Paul’s passion for the integrity of the mission and ministry of the Gospel

1 Timothy 5.17-19

Oxen: a muzzled ox will be weak, thin, exhausted, and distracted, which means less work, and poor work. The ox may even eventually collapse.

Soldiers: a soldier who provides his own equipment and training will be inept, unskilled, using inferior weapons, and unable to defend himself, much less others.

Farmers: farmers forbidden to enjoy their own crop will be tempted to find another line of work, and also become burned out and bitter towards the field owners.

God’s passion for His Word makes provision for Gospel preachers to be cared for by a church body that loves God, His Word, and His servants. Our goal as a church family should be to preserve the integrity of the Gospel, however that looks, among our church family.

Sermonettes make Christianettes.
- C.H. Spurgeon

NOTES:

This Week’s Scripture to Memorize:

Psalm 118:1
Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We’d love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you’ll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens’ ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshiping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not “graduate the faith” when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before your group starts, is there anyone who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **1 Corinthians 9:1-14**. What stands out to you in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday?

What is the “common denominator” for Paul’s command to provide for pastors, as well as his decision for he himself to not be paid?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

Without saying it explicitly, this section speaks volumes about God’s passion for His Word to be preached in His church. What Gospel truth can you remind yourself about from this passage?

Repent and Confess

Does your generosity (whether to friends, the church, your kids, etc.) have strings attached? Or do you hold back generosity from your church or your friends? Based on this passage, what might you need to confess and repent of?

Ask for Provision

What might you ask God to help you with or provide for you in light of these passages?

Your Life Mission

God has called you out of darkness and adopted you. He has not only adopted you into His eternal Kingdom, but He has also lovingly placed you in a local church family to help you grow. As part of a natural family, we do our part to provide for the needs of the family (chores, work, cleaning, etc.). The same goes for the local church. How has God called you to work and serve and do “family chores” in the body of Christ? How about in your work, school, or neighborhood?

What conversations or social settings with non-believers are coming up that you could use prayer for? How can your group be praying for the people in your life that you love and care for?

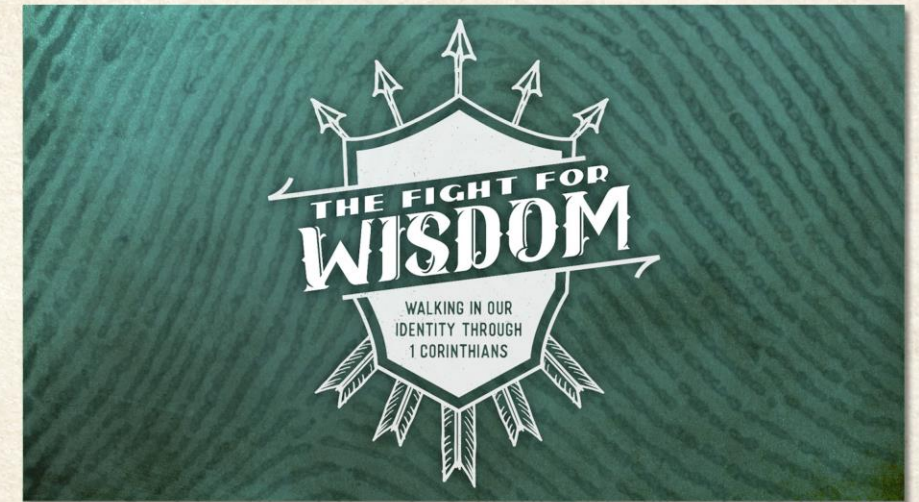
End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Make sure to end your time of prayer **Yielding with Thanksgiving** for God’s sovereignty and plan for your life.



LIFE MISSION

CHURCH

MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.



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1 Corinthians 9:1-14 // August 19, 2018

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM

