

“To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak. I am made all things to all men, that I might be all means save some” (1 Cor. 9:22)

The apostle Paul is a prime example of one who had an intense desire to see others saved. It is hoped that as 1 Corinthians is examined, everyone will catch that spirit. The main thought here is that of soul winning.

Winning the lost is Jesus’ concern. *He was made flesh and dwelt among men* (John 1:14). This is known as the incarnation. The fact that Jesus left heaven and came to earth as a human establishes the urgency of salvation for everyone. Luke said that the Lord’s mission was to seek and to save the lost.

*Jesus was made sin that sinners might be made the righteousness of God* (2 Cor. 5:21). He was not made a sinner, but he was made sin. Jesus never sinned. By being made sin, he became the victim of God’s wrath. He was made a curse and was separated from God.

Winning the lost is the concern of the apostle Paul. He made a personal sacrifice. He was educated for business. He was successful in other endeavors. Yet he gave up all of it to be a soul winner.

Paul became a great traveler. He traveled untiringly from country to country, city to city, and village to village to win the lost.

Paul underwent extreme suffering. He was ridiculed, beaten, and imprisoned. He underwent all of this because he wanted to win souls.

Paul was exposed to death constantly and was eventually put to death. Why? Because he had a concern for the lost. Paul became all things to all people that he might win some.

Winning the lost is the concern of the present-day Christian. Why should Christians today be desirous of winning souls? Because of the value of a soul. Because of the fate of a soul. Because of the future of a saved soul. Because of the glory of Christ.

How are present-day Christians to win souls? By using all things at hand. We must use our speaking ability to preach, teach, invite, and pray. We must let our lives be Christian examples and show compassion and concern for the well-being of others by sacrificing our time, talents, and finances for their benefit.

We, as Christians, have the privilege and responsibility to be a soul winner. I hope you will follow the example of Paul and do all you can to win others to Christ.

Thanks be to Christ!