

# GRACE NOTES

Series: FAMILY VALUES

Message: Unchanging Truth in an Ever-Changing World

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 9:19:23

Date: Sunday, November 20, 2016

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Core Value - An effective church needs to be both culturally relevant and doctrinally pure.

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

*Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.*

We do not compromise our message, but we are obliged to change our methods in an ever-changing world.

We do not need to fear change.

We do not need to embrace change for the sake of change.

Our methodology should be grounded in sound theology.

We need to embrace change for the sake of lost souls.

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# STUDY NOTES

Let's try this one again -- Without the words in front of you, who can recite the Grace Fellowship's mission statement?

What major changes have you seen in the world in your lifetime? Name one positive and one negative.

Thinking back to Sunday's service, how were you challenged, inspired, encouraged, or changed?

Look back at Paul's words in **1 Corinthians 9:19-23**.

What major choice did Paul make in his life? Why did he make it? (see v. 19)

What was Paul's approach to different groups (i.e., Jews, weak, etc.)?

For what overriding purpose was Paul willing to adapt his methods?

Why do you believe churches are hesitant to change the way they do things - even when they may not be accomplishing their stated purpose?

What are you most passionate about? List five people, things, etc.

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Were lost people on your list? Why? Why not?

List three people you know who need to hear the Gospel -

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Pray for these three people and actively look for opportunities to share the reason for the hope that you have in Jesus.

Over the years, many churches have seen the neighborhood around them change drastically. Some chose to relocate. Without criticizing them for their move, what other options might there have been?