

REVIEW: Philippians 2:8-9.

RIGHT, LEFT, OR WRONG!

Decide if each principle is a Mentalizing Saints principle or a Mobilizing Servants principle and why.

07

Minimizing Self!

Mentalizing Saints

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Choose key men/women to work beside you, train, and put to the task where you are or in another location.

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Choose key men/women to work beside you, train, and put to the task where you are or in another location.

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Pray for your trainees and let them know of prayers.

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As you delegate, give the equipment necessary for the delegated task.

Mobilizing Servants

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Part of “mentalizing saints” and “mobilizing servants” is helping them to grow spiritually. Another significant part of that growth process is minimizing self. We can **minimize** self in our own lives and help others to do the same by putting these four principles into practice.

1 Don't be afraid to address problems.

Paul did not shy away from problems. He had self in the right position.



Facing difficulties courageously helps **demote** self and **promote** Christ. Look at Acts 19:28-31 and 23:1. Why did Paul want to face the crowd and stare them down knowing that physical harm could come to him?

The answer is in Acts 20:24 _____

Other passages showing Paul's courage in difficult situations: Acts 21:30-40; 23:1-5; 25:8-11.

Confronting others about **sin** helps them **demote** and **promote** as well.

Paul confronted unbelievers (Acts 13:6-11) and important church folks (Gal. 2:11-16) about their sin.

Other passages in which Paul confronts people about sin: Acts 15:2; 1 Cor. 3:1-9; 5:1-12; 6:1-8; 11:17-18

O.I.C.

Share an **Observation (O)** with non-threatening language. “I’ve noticed that . . .”

Follow up with an **Interpretation (I)**. “I interpret that to mean . . .”

Follow with a **Clarification (C)**. “Could you clarify that for me?”

“Oh, I see!” (O.I.C.)

2 Be **unselfish** in all your dealings.

By being an example in this area, we can help others minimize self and the world's hold on them. Follow the directions to learn how Paul was unselfish in his dealings. Read 1 Corinthians 10:31-33 and/or Philippians 1:12-26 and answer the questions.



	1 Corinthians 10:31-33	Philippians 1:12-26
What was Paul's motivation?		
What did he do?		
What happened to him?		
What are some applications for us?		

3 Develop a **learning** spirit. Paul was trained by Gamaliel and had already experienced fruit, yet he humbled himself and learned from Barnabas—a lay preacher. (Look at Acts 11:26, 30; 13:1-3, etc.)



Later, Barnabas, who could have been enjoying the lead role, become second man. We need to develop a humble, learning spirit like these two.

4 Be **open, transparent** about your own struggles. We must admit (first to ourselves!) that we are weak creatures. Even as the great spiritual leader that Paul was, he admitted he had struggles (Rom 7:14-24).



Having a person with whom we can be transparent and accountable is a must. Who is your accountability partner? Admitting our weaknesses emphasizes the first principle under **Maximize Service**—the final category of principles.

Next week we'll look at **maximize** principles.

So, are you . . . addressing problems? . . . being unselfish? . . . developing a learning spirit? . . . being open and transparent about your own struggles? What would you like to work on this week?

MEMORIZE: Add verses 10-11 to Philippians 2:5-9 this week.

"So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

- Philippians 2:10-11(ESV)