

Lesson Three: The Prayer Forgiveness (Part One)

Philemon 4-5

As long as the church is made up of people, the church will need to be

_____.

In today's lesson, we will see, from Paul's thankful prayer, the graces by which Philemon will be able to forgive Onesimus...

I. The Expression of _____ (Verses 4-5)

1. The Grace _____ (v. 4)

- Paul could only be confident in the believer, because he was confident in the believer's _____. (Philippians 1:6)
- To rightly forgive is to solely and fully lean on _____ to do so.

2. The Graces _____ (v. 5)

A. _____ toward Jesus & all the saints

- ἀγάπη [agapē] — indicates a “_____” love; a love that leaves self out of the equation
- Love for Christ and love for Christians are two inextricably linked _____.
- Someone who does not love Christ and the church is someone who has not been _____ (1 John 4:7-8)

B. _____ toward Jesus & all the saints

- πίστις [pistis] — can be translated to “_____”
- This is a play on words by Paul.

- It suggests that faith in Christ will work itself out in faithfulness to Christ's

_____.

- Faithfulness is "_____."

Contrast the "graces" of Philemon with Romans 3:10-16.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

Discussion Questions:

1. Often times, we are more prone to examine and point out the flaws of others than we are to point out the evidences of God's grace in others. How can we do better at seeing and expressing thanksgiving for God's working in someone's life? How can we examine our own lives for evidences of love and faith?
2. When we are made aware of God's grace at work in our lives, what should our response be? How can we receive this encouragement while safeguarding against pride?
3. How is love displayed in our forgiving of one another? In what way(s) are we being faithful to the church by forgiving each other?