

“The Necessity of Forgiveness”

Philemon 1-3

Introduction

The book of Philemon is one of Paul’s most unique epistles because it is intimately written to one person...about one topic...and that topic is _____?

Verses revealing that our God is a forgiving God...

- Exodus 34:6-7
- Psalm 32:1
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God will forgive those who forgive but those who do not forgive he won’t forgive...why? _____

Onesimus would have been terrified to return to Philemon because according to Roman Law masters had _____ power over their slaves...

I) Paul’s Attention _____ (v. 1a)

Why does Paul begin by pointing out that he is a “prisoner” of for Jesus Christ? _____

II) Paul’s _____ (v. 1b)

With what one thing must we preface an exhortation to forgive?

III) Forgiveness is a _____ Effort (v. 2)

If you are married and both you and your spouse have been offended make your forgiveness a _____ and not a single minded one...

Even though the Church was not directly affected by the sin of Onesimus, they would be affected by how Philemon and his family

IV) What is _____ to forgive & the _____ of Forgiveness (v. 3)

We NEED _____ and when we get it we will HAVE _____

Two important things regarding how you were forgiven (Eph. 4:32)

1.) God forgave you IN _____

2.) God forgave _____!!!

Paul desperately wanted Philemon to forgive Onesimus because forgiveness IS the _____

ASK: Is there someone in my life I have yet to forgive?