



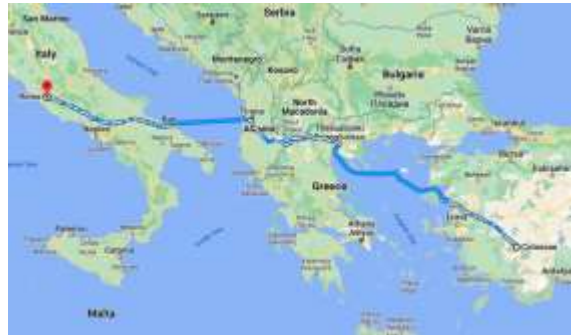
Oscar Chavez - Lead Pastor - 8/13/23

Series: Philemon V.4-7. "A Living Lesson on Forgiveness." Pt.2

*"Helping people experience the Hope  
found in a life-changing relationship with Jesus".*

Forgiveness: You're never more like God than when you forgive.

Onesimus **traveled 1,150 miles to get to Rome.**



#### Why forgiving others can be so difficult?

- Forgiving someone is often very difficult because it means letting go.
- We were told to "forgive and forget" but we can't actually forget.
- We wait for the other person to apologize.
- We don't think we should.
- We are afraid.

## Philemon

*1 This letter is from Paul, a prisoner for preaching the Good News about Christ Jesus, and from our brother Timothy.*

*I am writing to Philemon, our beloved co-worker,*

*2 and to our sister Apphia, and to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church that meets in your house.*

*3 May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.*

*4 I always thank my God when I pray for you, Philemon,*

*5 because I keep hearing about Your faith in the Lord Jesus and Your love for all of God's people.*

*6 And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from  
your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ.*

*7 Your love has given me much joy and comfort, my brother, for your kindness has often refreshed the hearts of God's people.*

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<b>4 I always thank my God when I pray for you, Philemon, 5 because I keep hearing about Your faith in the Lord Jesus and Your love for all of God's people.</b>	
<b>• 1. Your faith in the Lord Jesus. V.5a</b>	<b>• 2. Your love for all of God's people. V.5b</b>
<b>• 6 And I am praying that</b> you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ.	<b>• 7 Your love</b> has given me much joy and comfort, my brother, for <b>your kindness</b> has often refreshed the hearts of God's people.
<b>• Faith =</b> Acts of generosity from understanding all the good things we have in Christ.	<b>• Love =</b> Joy – Comfort – Kindness –refreshing of the heart of God's people.

## Two Characteristics of a forgiving person:

### 1. faith in the Lord Jesus. V.5a

The word Faith GRK = Pistos = literally means a strong trust in Jesus

Faith = Pistos. - Faith.

In = Eis - In. Deep down in your heart.

Jesus taught the disciple this principle.

Luke 17

<sup>1</sup> Jesus said to his disciples: "Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. <sup>2</sup>It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble. <sup>3</sup>So watch yourselves.

"If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. <sup>4</sup>Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive them."

<sup>5</sup> The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"

<sup>6</sup> He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you.

### 2. Love for all of God's people. V.5b.

<sup>7</sup> Your love has given me much joy and comfort, my brother, for your kindness has often refreshed the hearts of God's people.

Love for all of God's people. V5b

Paul doesn't refer to Philemon's love as Eros Love.... Phileo Love.....

He uses the word AGAPE = Choice, willing, self-sacrificial, selfless love, humble, not an emotional love, love that can only come from God

**"That is the love that forgives."**

1 Cor. 13

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup> It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup> Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

<sup>8</sup> Love never fails. <sup>8b</sup> many things will pass away.

<sup>13</sup> And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

**"LOVE hopes all things."**

<sup>7</sup> Your love has given me much joy and comfort, my brother, for your kindness has often refreshed the hearts of God's people.

This are the characteristics of a person who forgives.... Is a person who has a genuine relationship with Christ

1 John 3

<sup>10</sup> By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. <sup>11</sup> For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

## Two main principles

Last week:

God's forgiveness of us is based in our forgiveness of others.

This week:

Faith / Trust in Jesus will lead you to acts of Generosity  
and Love for all God's people will lead you to acts of kindness

The result

**Forgiveness of those who have hurt you or offended you!!!**

**Faith = Generosity. Love = Kindness. Results in Forgiveness**