

SGL QUESTIONS

Loving the Church: Forgiving One Another Philemon

Purpose: To demonstrate love to God and love to His church by forgiving others who have offended us or being willing to ask other for forgiveness.

Read all of Philemon

1. How do you think you would have felt if you were Philemon and Onesimus betrayed you by stealing money and/or possessions and ran away?
2. How do you respond when someone sins against or offends you? Is it true that the closer someone is to you, the more it hurts when they sin against you?

Read Colossians 3:12–13

3. Why is it true that we cannot truly forgive others unless we have first experienced God's forgiveness?
4. What verses can you think of that demonstrate the forgiveness that believers have through faith in Christ? (e.g., Eph 1:17; 1 John 1:9; Ps 103:12; Isa 1:18).

Read Philemon v. 15

5. What do you think Paul's means by this statement? How can we apply this thinking to our own context when someone sins against us?
6. Some signs of unforgiveness are: (1) you think about the offense often; (2) you tend to avoid the person; (3) you tend to judge people's motives negatively; and (4) you lack personal spiritual growth. Do you agree with this list? What would you add?
7. Is there someone in your life that you need to forgive? ... ask for forgiveness? What step do you need to take to remedy the situation?