

A Roadmap for Restored Relationships (Pt. 3)

Philemon 19–25

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Jonathan Anderson

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MAIN IDEA: Paul's letter to Philemon provides a powerful and personal message for us: the priority of relationship in the body of Christ, particularly the restoration of broken relationships through Jesus Christ our Lord. This letter provides both the motivation and the pattern for reconciliation—both of which are connected to the gospel. In this text, we discover 4 aspects of biblical restoration.

OUTLINE:

- I. The Parties Involved (1-3)
- II. The Prerequisites Required (4-7)
- III. The Pattern Demonstrated (8-19)
- IV. **The Prompting Given (19-25)**
 - A. **The Debt We Owe (19)**
 - B. **The Blessing We Become (20)**
 - C. **The Obedience Christ Commands (21)**
 - D. **The Accountability We Have (22)**
 - E. **The Relationships We Share (23-24)**
 - F. **The Grace We Receive (25)**

BIBLICAL/THEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS

1. Read Colossians 3:12–14. Discuss each of the qualities that the apostle Paul encourages every Christian to embody. According to this text, what is the primary motivation for the believer to forgive others? Discuss.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. Do you have accountability partners (other believers) to encourage you in the Christian faith? What do they hold you accountable for? Why is it crucial that all of us engage on this level with other brothers and sisters at Countryside? Discuss.
2. Read Philemon 25. Why does Paul end his letter highlighting the grace of God? How does grace relate to our justification? How does grace relate to our sanctification? And how does grace relate to the biblical concept of forgiveness?
3. What did you learn from our study of Philemon—and how have you been directly impacted by the truth of this brief letter? How has this letter spurred you on in your Christian life? Discuss.