

September 6, 2015

**OUR ACTIONS OF FORGIVENESS  
PHILEMON 8-18**

**To forgive when we are asked. Philem. 8-9**

- Because it is the **right** action to take. Philem. 8; Eph. 4:32; Matt. 6:14-15; 18:21-22
- Because it is our **duty** and responsibility to do so. Philem. 9, 4, 7; Eph. 4:15; 1 Cor. 13:11; Rom. 8:29; 2 Pet. 3:18

**To be reminded of the biblical elements of forgiveness.**

- We forgive **others** of their offense because the greater offense is to God. Rom. 3:23; Ps. 51:4; 41:4; Luke 15:21
- Our unforgiving spirit **hurts** our relationship with others. Matt. 18:31; Eph. 4:32; Rom. 14:1; 15:1
- Our unforgiving spirit **usurps** God's authority. Rom. 12:14-19
- Our unforgiving spirit **hinders** our worship. Matt. 5:23-24; 18:15-18
- The offense that we incur brings **traits** that produce growth. Matt. 5:44-45; Rom. 8:28-29
- Our forgiveness should be **given** even if it is not sought. Luke 23:34

**To take the right actions to forgive. Philem. 10-18**

- We must **open** our lives to take the person back. Philem. 10-14
  - Opening up is made possible because of **their** repentance. Philem.10; John 1:12; 3:3, 5
  - Opening up is made possible because of **God's** transformation. Philem. 11, 2 Cor. 5:17; Col. 3:8-10; Eph. 4:22-32; Rom. 12:1-2; Acts 8:1-4; 9:1-3; 2 Cor. 11:23-28
  - Opening up is made possible because of their **faithfulness**. Philem. 12-14; Col. 4:9; Acts 16:22-40; 17:4; 10, 14
- Opening up our lives to **restore** the one who has sinned against us. Philem. 15-16; Gal. 6:1-4; 1 Cor. 2:15-16; Eph. 5:18; Gal. 5:16, 22
- Opening up our lives to **make** restitution. Philem. 17-18; Num. 5:6-8; Luke 19:8-10; Rom. 10:10; 13:7-8; Matt. 18:21-22