Philemon: Forgiveness and Restitution January 29, 2017 By: Shaun Brown

Philemon 17-22

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁹If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge it to me. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it. And I won't mention that you owe me your very soul! ²⁰Yes, my brother, please do me this favor for the Lord's sake. Give me this encouragement in Christ. ²¹I am confident as I write this letter that you will do what I ask and even more! ²²One more thing—please prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that God will answer your prayers and let me return to you soon. (NLT)

l	.		
	A. The greatest way to love someone is to		
	what they		
	B		

Luke 19:8

Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!" (NLT)

1 John 4:10

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (ESV)

"It is right to demand restitution, but it is never wrong to be gracious"

John MacArthur

	_ of offering forgiveness.
A	_a
B	and always does
С	the overflow of forgiveness

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Small Group Questions

*You do NOT have to answer or discuss every question. Feel free to just pick a few. These are meant to guide you in truth. If you are having trouble answering a question, ask your small group leader to help you. They are committed to helping you develop as an authentic follower of Christ.

The COMMUNITY:

1. Who are you rooting for in the Super Bowl? Why?

Into the WORD/APPLICATION:

Here are some suggested sites in order to dive deeper into God's Word: blueletterbible.org, desiringgod.org/articles/all, biblos.com, ccel.org, logos.com, connect.ligonier.org, thegospelcoalition.org/channel/bible-and-theology.

- 1. Read Philemon in its entirety in small group for context. The discussions will focus on verses 17-25.
 - A. Why does the Apostle Paul use his relationship with Philemon in an effort to persuade him to receive back Onesimus? (consider verses 17, 19, 20)
 - B. What is the significance of Paul offering to repay Onesimus' debt to Philemon? (passages to consider: Luke 19 Zacchaeus' repentance)

C. Has there been a time in your life where someone paid a debit you could not pay?

D. What is the Apostle Paul's goal in mentioning the debt that Philemon cannot repay him in verse 19?

E. What does Paul's kindness teach us about forgiveness, restitution and reconciliation? How will you apply what you have learned this month in your relationships with other people?