

Paul's Prayer

September 17, 2017



After pouring out his heart, expressing the depth of his love for the church family at Philippi, Paul describes the essence of what he prays for them. It's an extraordinary model of how we ought to pray.



Philippians 1:9-11

⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.



After pouring out his heart, expressing the depth of his love for the church family at Philippi, Paul describes the essence of what he prays for them. It's an extraordinary model of how we ought to pray. We pray that...



1. We would love each other more fully.



Philippians 1:9

⁹ And it is my prayer that **your love may abound more and more**, with knowledge and all discernment



Could be...



Could be...

- **God**



Could be...

- God
- **Other Believers**



Could be...

- God
- Other Believers
- **Those yet to believe**



I think...



I think...

- **God**
- **Other Believers**
- **Those yet to believe**



1. We would love each other more fully.

I think...

- **God**
- **Other believers**
- **Those yet to believe**

I pray that “...your love may abound more and more...” to one another




1. We would love each other more fully.

I think...

- **God**
- **Other believers**
- **Those yet to believe**

I Pray that “...your love may abound more and more...” to one another, just as I love you.



Philippians 1:3-8

³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

John 13:34-35

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one another**: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ **By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”**



1. We would love each other more fully.

Paul Prays-



1. We would love each other more fully.

Paul Prays- That our love for one another would abound more and more.



1. We would love each other more fully.
2. Our love would be rooted in our growing knowledge of God



Philippians 1:9

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“...May you love abound more and more...”



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“...May you love abound more and more...”

What kind of love should abound more and more?



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“...May you love abound more and more...”

What kind of love should abound more and more?

“what the world needs now is love sweet love...”

John Lennon's "LOVE"

Love is real, real is love
Love is feeling, feeling love
Love is wanting to be loved

Love is touch, touch is love
Love is reaching, reaching love
Love is asking to be loved

Love is you
You and me
Love is knowing
we can be

Love is free, free is love
Love is living, living love
Love is needing to be loved

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What kind of love should abound more and more?



1. We would love each other more fully.
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What kind of love should abound more and more? With KNOWLEDGE and DISCERNMENT



1. We would love each other more fully.
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What kind of love should abound more and more?
With KNOWLEDGE and DISCERNMENT

Knowledge -



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2. Our love would be rooted in our growing knowledge of God

What kind of love should abound more and more? With KNOWLEDGE and DISCERNMENT

Knowledge – Love rooted in **knowledge** of God. Who He is. How He acts. How He desires we think, feel and act.



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What kind of love should abound more and more? With KNOWLEDGE and DISCERNMENT

Knowledge – Love rooted in knowledge of God. Who He is. How He acts. How He desires we think, feel and act.

Discernment -



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What kind of love should abound more and more? With KNOWLEDGE and DISCERNMENT

Knowledge – Love rooted in knowledge of God. Who He is. How He acts. How He desires we think, feel and act.

Discernment – Love rooted in knowledge of God, wisely expressed as God would have it expressed.

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Paul Prays -



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Paul Prays – That our love for one another would abound more and more, **flowing from our growing knowledge of God and discernment**



1. We would love each other more fully.
2. Our love would be rooted in our growing knowledge of God
3. We would live in a way God intends.



Philippians 1:9-10

⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,



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Excellent according to whom?



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Excellent according to whom?

GOD



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What is excellent according to God?



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What is excellent according to God?

Our love for one another abounding more and more in knowledge and discernment



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Paul Prays -



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3. We would live in a way God intends.

Paul Prays – That our love for one another would abound more and more, flowing from our growing knowledge of God and discernment, **living the way God intends. (Love)**



1. We would love each other more fully.
2. Our love would be rooted in our growing knowledge of God
3. We would live in a way God intends.
4. Our lives would give evidence of genuine faith, assuring us of heaven.



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Paul Is **not** saying



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Paul Is **not** saying

- We earn heaven by being pure and blameless.



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Paul Is **not** saying

- We earn heaven by being pure and blameless.
- Our salvation is gained by us living rightly.



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Paul Prays – That our love for one another would abound more and more, flowing from our growing knowledge of God and discernment, living the way God intends, **producing lives that demonstrate genuine faith. (Love)**

1. We would love each other more fully.
2. Our love would be rooted in our growing knowledge of God
3. We would live in a way God intends.
4. Our lives would give evidence of genuine faith, assuring us of heaven.
5. We would inevitably display the characteristics of those who treasure Jesus.



Philippians 1:9-11

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Paul Prays – That our love for one another would abound more and more, flowing from our growing knowledge of God and discernment, living the way God intends, producing lives that demonstrate genuine faith, **Inevitably displaying that we treasure Jesus. (Love)**

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2. Our love would be rooted in our growing knowledge of God
3. We would live in a way God intends.
4. Our lives would give evidence of genuine faith, assuring us of heaven.
5. We would inevitably display the characteristics of those who treasure Jesus.
6. Our lives might ultimately bring glory to God.



Philippians 1:9-11

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Ephesians 3:8-10

⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that **through the church** the **manifold wisdom of God** might now be made **known** to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

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Paul Prays – That our love for one another would abound more and more, flowing from our growing knowledge of God and discernment, living the way God intends, producing lives that demonstrate genuine faith, inevitably displaying that we treasure Jesus, **that ultimately God would receive glory from us. (Love)**