



# Grace Life Church *of Dallas*

The doctrines of grace, the life of the Spirit, to the glory of God

# Announcements

George's & Herrera's expecting-Please continue to keep them in your prayers

Please keep praying for the Logan's (Aaron and Karen) getting very close to delivering

Jason & Whitney Hauser are expecting



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*of Dallas*

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# **Yearning for One Another with the Affection of Christ Jesus Philippians 1:6-9a**

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# Philippians 1:6-9a

*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*

*9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more*

***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.***

## **There are two things Paul is sure of:**

1. He (God) who began a good work (new birth) in you, will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ
  - God made us alive (He gets the glory) & God keeps us (He gets the glory) Eph 2:1-4, Rom 8:29-30
  - Jesus will not lose any that the Father has given Him (John 10:27-30)
2. The Philippians are true believers
  - Their lives give evidence that their faith is genuine (v5)

**All true believers are kept by the power of God (1 Peter 1:5)**

**They will persevere to the end**

# **Paul's love for the church at Philippi**

*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*

*9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more*

*It is right for me  
to feel this way about you all*

Speaking of his love (affection), Paul says it is “*right* (spiritual righteousness) *to feel this way about you all*”

- Not merely expected or appropriate but essential
- Christianity without love for the brethren is not true Christianity (1 John 2:7-11; 3:14; 4:20)
- Love for the brethren is necessary (see more clearly v8)
- Scripture is continually commanding us to love one another
  - **John 13:34** *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.*

*It is right for me to feel this way about you all*

- It’s not right for us to hold back love to any part of the body
- James tells us not to show partiality (James 2:-13)

*It is right for me to feel this way about you all,  
because I hold you in my heart*

*Because I hold you in my heart:*

- Proverbs 4:23 *Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.*
- Christianity is about the heart (We do not obey the law from the letter-Rom 6:17)
  - Christian love is not merely emotions/feelings but it certainly not devoid of emotions/feelings
  - Christian love is not begrudgingly obeyed (although it can be difficult) 1 John 5:3
- If you are struggling to love someone, search your heart
  - Selfishness, Pride, Bitterness, Unwillingness to forgive, Lacking grace



*for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment  
and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.*

**A few things to notice here:**

- Christian love is birthed in the gospel (v8) and can be demonstrated in the universal commission of the gospel
  - We are all united together in that we are all under the grace of the gospel, and we are all called to the commission of the gospel
  - When Jesus Christ and the gospel are central in the church and central in our hearts, we strive together in love
    - We understand the difficulty, we understand our common enemy, we understand our imperfections and we walk together in love for the glory of God
- This walking together will be costly (imprisonment and in the defense/confirmation)
  - The Philippians were partakers of grace with Paul (spiritual partners)

# *For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus*

The basis for Christian love:

- *I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus-I long for you/desire you from the deepest part within me (bowels)*
- Our love for one another is the by-product of God loving us through Jesus Christ
- **Romans 5:5** *God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us*
- **1 John 4:7-8** *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.*
- **John 13:35** *By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another*
- **1 Thess 4:9-10** *Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, 10for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more*
- Our love is supernatural love, and should manifest in supernatural ways

*V9 And it is my prayer that your love  
may abound more and more*

- We all have room to grow in our love for one another
- We must remind ourselves that love for one another is right (not optional), it is from the heart, it is costly and holds the gospel commission at its center, and it the by-product of the new birth (gospel) and it should be abounding
- Is there anything in your life keeping you from fulfilling this calling and heart's desire?
- It will take time and it will be costly