

---

Philemon: Reconciling Grace  
REV. JOSH DESCH  
NEPC SERMON SERIES  
SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024

---

**Sermon Title:** “The Secret of Reconciliation: Forgiveness”  
(#5 in the Sermon Series)

**Scripture text:** Philemon 1-25

**Main Points:**

1. Why is everyone so angry?
2. How is forgiveness possible?
3. Why do you need to forgive?



**Questions:**

1. **Ice Breaker Question** – Where do you see anger and grievance in our culture?
2. **Transition Question** – Why don't we see more instances of forgiveness and reconciliation in our culture?
3. **Observation Question** – Using your own words, state the purpose of Paul's letter to Philemon in one sentence.
4. **Interpretation Question** – Do you think Paul had the money to pay Onesimus' debt? Defend your answer and explain why Paul would say this.
5. **Reflection Question** – Why is reconciliation hard in the church, but why is it so necessary for ourselves, our congregations, our witness, and the glory of Christ?
6. **Application Question** – Who do you need to be reconciled with? Try to go deeper than the question, "Who is my enemy?" Instead ask, "What relationship in my life could improve?" or "Who am I at a stalemate with?"