

## Paul's Prayer: My Prayer

### Philippians 1:9-11

#### Introduction

Paul prays that the Philippian believers will grow in love, that is directed by knowledge and discernment, and results in an ability to distinguish the excellent things, leading to a life that is genuine, or pure, and without offense, which will yield the fruit righteousness produces, so that God will be glorified.

1. Love is the \_\_\_\_\_.

a) Why does Paul start with love?

- **1 John 4:7-21**
- **Matthew 22:34-40**
- **Luke 10:25-37**
- **John 13:34-35**

b) First characteristic: \_\_\_\_\_.

- **abound** – exceeding measure, something above the ordinary.
- **more** – very, very much

c) Second characteristic: \_\_\_\_\_.

- **knowledge** - full, or thorough knowledge, discernment, recognition ;
- **Colossians 1:9**

d) Third characteristic: \_\_\_\_\_.

- **discernment** - perception, not only by the senses but by the intellect, cognition, discernment – of moral discernment in ethical matters.

2. Specific \_\_\_\_\_ follows.

a) Behavior: \_\_\_\_\_.

- **approve** -
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- **excellent** -
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“...not merely things not bad, but the things best among those that are good; the things of more advanced excellence. Ask as to things, not merely, Is there no harm, but is there any good, and which is the best?” Jamieson, R., Fausset, A., & and Brown, D.

b) First result: Be \_\_\_\_\_.

- **sincere** - \_\_\_\_\_

c) Second result: Be \_\_\_\_\_.

- **blameless** - \_\_\_\_\_

3. Producing \_\_\_\_\_.

a) Righteousness will be the fruit of our lives.

- **righteousness** -
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- “The doctrine that God always acts in accordance with what is right and that he is himself the final standard of what is right.” Grudem, W.

- This is what that looks like:

- **Ephesians 5:1-12**
- **John 15:1-17**
- **Galatians 5:14-23**

b) Source: \_\_\_\_\_

- **2 Corinthians 5:21**
- **Romans 11:33-36**

4. Resulting in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

- **Matthew 5:14-16**
- **1 Peter 2:12**
- **2 Corinthians 9:13**
- **John 15.8**

Conclusion