

**Philippians 1:9-11**

**A Prayer For Our Love To Abound**

**Things prayed previously as a preamble (Phil 1:3-8)**

1. In a general way
2. Only preliminary

**Specific prayer**

“And this I pray,” (Phil 1:9)

1. Connected to the previous section
2. Indicate specific content to focus on in prayer
3. Love is there but needs to develop further

**The purpose/goal for praying is for love to abound**

“That your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment,”  
(Phil 1:9)

1. The use of the ἵνα
  - a. ἵνα ... conjunction...indicate purpose, goal
  - b. This is Paul’s purpose, goal in prayer
2. The kind of love
  - a. A reference to the kind of love that they already had.
  - b. Linked to σπλάγγνα...the affection of Jesus Christ
  - c. Love is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22)
3. Our love to abound
  - a. περισσευη... “perisseuo”...to superabound, to be in excess
  - b. From one level to another level
  - c. Love is something that should be increasing and super abounding.
  - d. The use of the subjunctive...to state the purpose
4. The sphere in which this love is to be applied
  - a. “en”...in ...in the sphere of ...

- b. “epignosis”...compound word...a deeper knowledge...
- c. “aesthesis”... where you get the English word “aesthetics”... To discern and perceive things
- d. Love has to be applied in the sphere of deeper knowledge and all levels of perception

### **The result of praying for our love to abound**

“That you may approve the things that are excellent,” (Phil 1:10)

- 1. The use of εἰς τὸ
  - a. εἰς τὸ ...prepositional phrase...to indicate result...
  - b. This is the result of praying for our love to increase in all knowledge and discernment
- 2. The results of this abounding love
  - a. To be able to approve things
    - i. δοκιμάζειν... dokimazo...to test and to approve (Cf. 1 Peter 1:7)
    - ii. τὰ διαφέροντα... diaphero ... to differ, to be more excellent
  - b. To be sincere and without offence
 

“That you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ,” (Phil 1:10)

    - i. ἵνα... second hina....to indicate result
    - ii. To be sincere... eilikrines
    - iii. Without offence... aproskopos
  - c. This is what we want to be when the Lord comes again.

### **The means of having this life**

“Being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ,” (Phil 1:11)

- 1. A reference to the Philippian brethren who already have some existing fruits of righteousness
- 2. By means of the Lord Jesus...These fruits are produce through and by the Lord Jesus

### **To the glory and praise of God**

- 1. Towards the glory and praise of God.
- 2. All that we prayed for are meant to give praise and glory to God