

**Allen Temple Baptist Church**  
**Sunday School Live** 

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**Sunday July 14, 2024**

**Text: Philemon 1:8-18**

**Reference: Colossians 3-4**

**Lesson Title: At Home in the Community**

***Message : Grace, Mercy, Forgiveness.***

*Instructor: Michael McCants*

# PHILEMON INTRODUCTION

- 1). Written to Philemon, by Paul while imprisoned in Rome.**
- 2). The shortest and most personal of Paul's Letters.**
- 3). Subject, Onesimus, a runaway slave of Philemon, who apparently stole money (V.18)**

# LESSON OUTLINE

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- 1). Appeal Based on Christian Authority  
(Philemon 1:8–9)**
- 2). Appeal Based on Compassion (vv. 10–12)**
- 3). Appeal Based on Christian Service (vv. 13–14)**
- 4). An Appeal Based on Brotherhood (vv. 15–18)**

# PERSONS, PLACES & EVENTS

- 1). Slavery in the Roman Empire.**
- 2). Apostle Paul – Author of the Letter.**
- 3). Philemon – A wealthy Minister and slave owner likely in Colossae.**
- 4). The Slave who escaped and returned with an appeal for forgiveness.**

## PHILEMON 1:8 NRSV

**<sup>8</sup> For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, <sup>9</sup> yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus.**

## PHILEMON 1:10-11 NRSV

**<sup>10</sup> I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment.**

**<sup>11</sup> Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.**

# PHILEMON 1:12-13 NRSV

**<sup>12</sup> I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you.**

**<sup>13</sup> I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel,**

# QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

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- 1). Paul identifies Himself as Prisoner of Christ and an older now, what tone has this set ?
- 2). Onesimus is in the middle, what is his challenge?
- 3). How do you think Philemon feel?



## PHILEMON 1:14 NRSV

**<sup>14</sup> but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup> Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term,**

# KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

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- 1). Paul appeals on behalf of Philemon humbly in the spirit of Christian Love.**
- 2). Paul validates the change in Onesimus, expecting his word to be of value & accepted by Philemon.**
- 3). Philemon has been robbed, but is charged to forgive in Christian & Brotherly Love.**

# PHILEMON 1:16 NRSV

**1<sup>6</sup> no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.**

# PHILEMON 1:17-18 NRSV

**<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me.**

**<sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me.**

# PHILEMON 1:19 NRSV

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**19 I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self.**

# PHILEMON 1: 20-21 NRSV

**<sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.**

# PHILEMON 1:22 NRSV

**22 One thing more: prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you.**

# KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

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**JESUS IS LIGHT  
LOVE.  
INTEGRITY.  
GRACE.  
HUMILITY.  
TRUTH.**



# Liberating Lesson

**1. Do you think that our experiences as an oppressed people can help us help others? What other groups do you see discriminated against? How are their experiences different from ours? How are they the same? Brainstorm some possible methods that we can use to stand up for others.**

# Application for Activation

**Be sensitive this week to anyone who is being bullied, discriminated against, or otherwise hurt. Think of ways to stand up to help this person.**

**Stand for Justice.**

# APPLICATION FOR ACTIVATION

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**TELL SOMEBODY**

**SHOW SOMEBODY**

**“JESUS LOVES”**



# *How Allen Temple Receives Members*

- **Candidate for Baptism:** Upon the profession of faith in Christ as Lord, Savior, and Forgiver of your sins.
- **Christian Experience:** You are inactive as a church member and wish to activate your church membership and renew your relationship with Jesus Christ.
- **Transfer of Membership:** From one church to another by letter



**Online via [Allen-Temple.org](http://Allen-Temple.org)**

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1. NEW INTERPRETERS NIV, NRSV STUDY BIBLE.**
- 2. BIBLE REFERENCE.COM PRECEPTS 4 LIVING**
- 3. INSIGHT FOR LIVING PHILEMON.**
- 4. BOOK OF BIBLICAL IMAGERY**