

Solid Rock Church

Right Relationships Book of Philemon

8 Therefore, though I have enough confidence in Christ to order you *to do* what is proper, **9** yet for love's sake I rather appeal *to you*—since I am such a person as Paul, the aged, and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus.

Right Relationships

Book of Philemon

Three main characters

- **Apostle Paul - Author of several books in the New Testament**
- **Philemon - Christian man; Influential; Slave owner**
- **Onesimus - Slave; His owner was Philemon**

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Book of Philemon

1 Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our beloved *brother* and fellow worker,

2 and to Apphia our sister, and to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

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3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers,

5 because I hear of your love and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints;

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6 *and I pray* that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of every good thing which is in you for Christ's sake.

7 For I have come to have much joy and comfort in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.

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8 Therefore, though I have enough confidence in Christ to order you *to do* what is proper,

9 yet for love's sake I rather appeal *to you*—since I am such a person as Paul, the aged, and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus—

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10 I appeal to you for my child Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my imprisonment,

11 who formerly was useless to you, but now is useful both to you and to me.

12 I have sent him back to you in person, that is, *sending* my very heart,

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13 whom I wished to keep with me, so that on your behalf he might minister to me in my imprisonment for the gospel;

14 but without your consent I did not want to do anything, so that your goodness would not be, in effect, by compulsion but of your own free will.

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15 For perhaps he was for this reason separated *from you* for a while, that you would have him back forever,

16 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.

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17 If then you regard me a partner, accept him as *you would* me.

18 But if he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to my account;

19 I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand, I will repay it (not to mention to you that you owe to me even your own self as well).

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20 Yes, brother, let me benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ.

21 Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, since I know that you will do even more than what I say.

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22 At the same time also prepare me a lodging, for I hope that through your prayers I will be given to you.

23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you,

24 *as do* Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow workers.

25 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

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Application/Practical Truths

Relationships Require Forgiveness

Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

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Application/Practical Truths

Christians Should Help Restore Broken Relationships

Ephesians 6:2 - Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

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Application/Practical Truths

Christians Should Go Above and Beyond

Luke 10:33-35 - “But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’”

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Application/Practical Truths

Love over Legalism (People Over Procedures)

Galatians 5:14 - For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

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Application/Practical Truths

Avoid Big Me Little You

Colossians 3:12 - So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

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Application/Practical Truths

Do the Right Thing (Persuasion over Coercion)

Matthew 6:33 - But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided to you.

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Application/Practical Truths

Love Should Supersede Racial and Cultural Barriers

Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.