



Studies from Philemon

bridgeBUILDERS

Bridge Builders Tell The Truth

Practical Steps for effective Bridge-Building

Step 1: PUT YOURSELF IN THE MIDDLE

“So if you consider me a partner...”

{VERSE 17-20}

Paul is putting himself on the line and asking Philemon to join him in the greater good. He directly ask him to receive Onesimus back in good standing.



Practical Steps for effective Bridge-Building

Step 1: PUT YOURSELF IN THE MIDDLE

“So if you consider me a partner...”

{VERSE 17-20}

OBJECTIONS: #1 That's not my problem!



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Step 1: PUT YOURSELF IN THE MIDDLE

“So if you consider me a partner...”

{VERSE 17-20}

OBJECTIONS: #1 That's not my problem!
#2 Who am I to judge?



Practical Steps for effective Bridge-Building

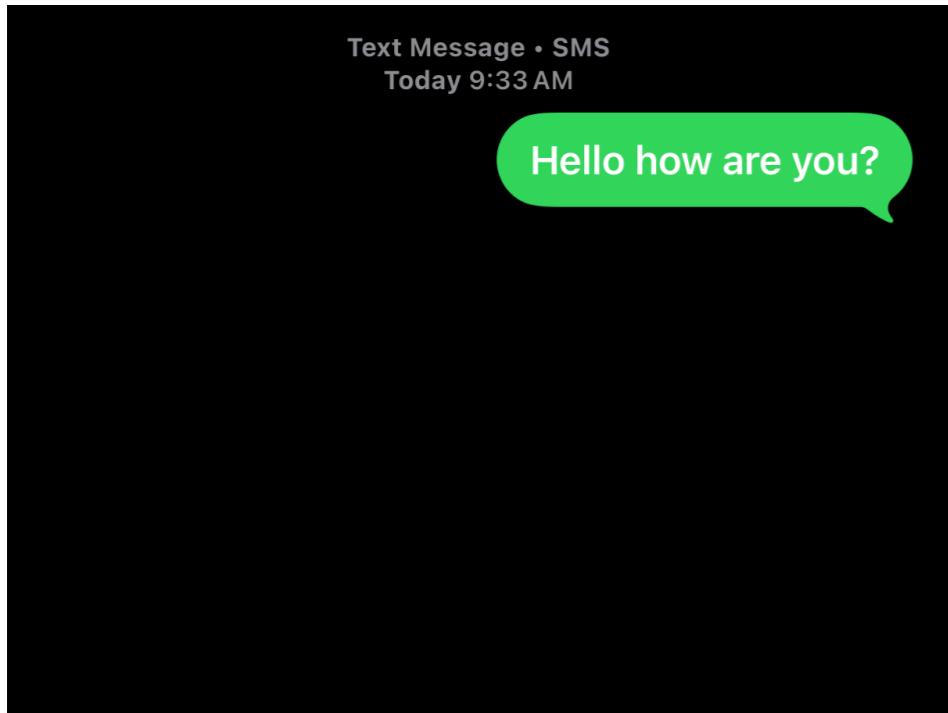
Step 2: SHOULDER THE DEBT

Paul said: "...charge it to me..."

{VERSE 18-19}

Keep in mind Paul was not a rich man. He had to make tents to subsidize his income, just to get by. He was not a wealthy man but was willing to show just how much he cared.





Hello
how are
you?

Read 8:52 AM

Today, we enlarge our fonts and no one has to know how bad our eyes really are.



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Step 3: APPEAL ON THE BASIS OF FRIENDSHIP

Paul said: "...you owe me your very self...." {VERSE 19}

Paul cashes in every relational coin he has. He's willing to spend all the equity in their friendship—not for himself, but for Onesimus.

Real Christian friendship is rare.



Practical Steps for effective Bridge-Building

Step 4: BRING THE ISSUE IN THE LIGHT OF LORDSHIP

Paul said: "...refresh my heart in Christ...." {VERSE 20}

**Bridge-builders always focus the conversation back
to the lordship of Jesus.**



Practical Steps for effective Bridge-Building

Step 5: Have confidence in their obedience

Paul said: “I am Confident of your obedience....” {VERSE 21}

**Paul isn't confident in Philemon; he's confident in the
Holy Spirit's work inside Philemon to lead him to
obey.**



