





Relationships Really Matter

Philemon 1: 1 - 7
Steve Diserens

Last Week: Don Munton (Colossians 4: 7 – 18) > _____

Today – Introduction to Philemon 1: 1 – 3

To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker— ² also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier—and to the church that meets in your home:

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



Notes - Personal Letter from Paul to Philemon

Philemon 1: 4 – 7

⁴ I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers,⁵ because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. ⁷ Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.

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1.	Notes
⁴ I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear about your love for all his holy	
people and your faith in the Lord Jesus.	
(I Thess 5:18; I Thess 3:9)	
2.	
⁶ I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be	
effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ.	
(James 5:16b; Ephesians 3:16)	
3.	
⁷ Your love has given me great joy and	
encouragement, because you, brother, have	
refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.	
(Psalm 62:5 - 6; Romans 15:13)	

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

Learning from Paul - Strengthening our Relationships



Next Week: Dan Miller (Philemon 1: 8 - 25)

Discussion Questions

- 1. Why is it sometimes easier to be critical rather than thankful? How can I build more thankfulness in my own life?
- 2. Prayer is God's love language who needs your persistent prayer support right now?
- 3. Is your "hope level" closer to FULL or to EMPTY? What steps can I take to increase my hope to an overflow level (see Romans 15:13)?
- 4. Which family member or friend would you like to share more of these relationship blessings (Thankfulness + Prayer + Hope)?

Bonus

Send a handwritten Thank You note (especially to someone God directs to you)!

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Philemon 1: 4 - 5

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Paul is THANKFUL and PERSONAL with his dear friend, Philemon.

have in the presence of our God because of you?

I Thess 3:9 NIV

Philemon 1: 6

⁶ I <u>pray</u> that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ.

Paul is PERSONAL in his PRAYERS for Philemon – He knows what to pray for his close friend.

Philemon 1: 7

⁷ Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.

⁵Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. ⁶ Truly he is

Paul ENCOURAGES and brings HOPE to Philemon.

Romans 15:13 NIV

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BONUS – Send a handwritten Thank You note (ask God who that is ...!)