He Shared His Faith

Philemon 1-7

All of us were once <u>lost</u> but when you accept Christ as your Savior you are <u>found</u>.

The book of Philemon is about being <u>lost</u> and <u>found</u>.

In our text today there are three things about Philemon that when Paul prayed for him, he gave thanks for.

First is:

HIS GOOD <u>REPUTATION</u> (vs. 4-5)

- His <u>love</u> to God (vs. 4)
- His <u>love</u> of Saints (vs. 5)

Secondly Paul gave thanks for:

HIS WITNESS (Philemon vs. 6)

- His_effectiveness__
- His Life <u>evangelism</u> (vs. 6)

Lastly Paul gave thanks:

HIS <u>ENCOURAGEMENT</u> (vs. 7)

- By <u>love</u> (v.7)
- By hospitality (v.7)

CONCLUSION:

I like the phrase in verse 7 "You brother have refreshed the hearts of the saints." My challenge for you and I is to look around us and make opportunities to <u>refresh the hearts</u> of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

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Discussion Questions

Philemon 1-7

- 1. Who was the book Philemon written to? V.1-2. Why do you think Paul gave writing credit to Timothy? How much of a role do you think Timothy had in writing the book?
- 2. Paul speaks of remembering the recipients of the book in his prayers. V.4. Why would Paul speak of remembering people in prayer, why did he not just say when I pray for you? Is there a difference between remembering people in prayer and just praying for people?
- 3. In vs. 5 Paul said he did hear about their faith in the Lord Jesus. What would you guess that Paul heard about their faith?
- 4. In v. 5 it also says that Paul heard about their Love for all the saints. Their love must have been significant.

 What kind of love must have been shown to get back to Paul? Can you think of love in our time that was so amazing that word has spread around because of it?
- 5. Notice that in v.6 that Paul prayed that the saints would be active in sharing their faith. Would it make a difference in our church if we prayed that way for one another? What might happen?
- 6. Paul said to Philemon that his love gave him great encouragement, v.7 can you think of someone past or present that their love has been an encouragement to you?

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