

PHILEMON

– Every Word: summer series in the small books –

“Philemon”

Father’s Day, June 21, 2020

Scripture: Philemon

“Every Word” Series

The Prodigal Son, Luke 15:11-32

Outline of Philemon:

- 1-3 Introduction
- 4-7 Prayer of Thanksgiving
- 8-22 Paul’s Plea
- 23-25 Final Greetings

_____ and _____ the love of the Father brings:

1. _____ into our _____ .

Onesimus is now:

A _____ Servant

A _____ Brother

2. _____ to our _____ .

Philemon can now:

_____ and _____ others.

_____ what had been wronged.

_____ back into fellowship.

3. _____ to our _____ .

Paul now:

_____ the Fatherless

Produces _____

How do I come to *understand* and *experience* the love of the Father more?

1. Through the _____ of the Gospel
2. Through Scripture-fed _____
3. Through Spiritual _____

Getting Started:

Share a lesson you learned from your father.

What makes forgiveness difficult?

As you begin studying the book of Philemon, ask the Father to give you the faith and understanding to experience redemption, reconciliation, and restoration in your life and relationships.

Digging Deeper:

Read the Book of Philemon. Read multiple times if you like!

Where do you see the section breaks in this letter?

Consider coloring the book of Philemon according to the main persons in it.

God (Yellow),

Paul (Red),

Philemon (Green), and

Onesimus (Blue)

What do you notice? List your observations:

Read Colossians 4:9. What else do we learn about Onesimus from this verse?

Getting Real:

What does being "Useful"...in work and in ministry...look like?

Paul is Onesimus' spiritual father. Philemon is urged to receive Onesimus as a beloved brother. What does a healthy family look like? Think specifically about sibling (brother and sister) relationships, and also about parent-child relationships.

What does family look like in terms of sharing resources (time, energy, money)?

Does your group and/or church life look like a healthy family?

What do you feel you need in order to become a healthy spiritual parent?

To whom might the Lord be calling you to spiritually parent?

Pray Together: *Father, you are good to us and gracious to us in so many ways. Help us to continue to learn and grow in the gospel, that our hearts may be full. Restore and strengthen our relationships. Make us instruments of peace and reconciliation through the power of your grace, Amen.*