

The River Church
50/50 Bible Study Challenge - Week 34

Philemon

Memory Verse: Philemon 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.

Talking Points:

Verses 1-3

Where was Paul writing from? Who is Philemon, Apphia, Archippus and Onesimus?

Verses 4-7

What can we learn from Paul's prayer life and what was the main content of prayer?

What brought Paul joy and encouragement? (Verses 7)

Verses 8- 15

What did Paul decide to do instead of ordering Philemon?

What does this teach us about using authority?

In Verse 9 why do you think that Paul mentioned himself as an old man and prisoner of Christ?

In Verses 16, Paul urges Philemon to adopt a different mind-set toward Onesimus (slave to fellow brother). What advantage is there in changing the way we think about people? How might this affect the way we approach our relationships with others? In what way does Paul's treatment of Onesimus reflect Christ's treatment of us as believers?

In this situation Paul acted as a peacemaker between Onesimus and Philemon. What did Paul do well in this situation?

Do you tend to be a conflict avoider or a peacemaker? Have you ever been involved in seeking to bring peace or restore relationships between other people? What have you learnt from doing so?

We also encounter conflict within families, friendships, churches, and workplaces. How might we be peacemakers in these situations?

Is there a situation you know of today where you could help to bring peace and reconciliation?

In Verses 18-21 what does the phrase “not to mention to you that you owe to me, even your own self as well”?

Verses 22-25 Greetings