



“Love’s Refreshing Grace”

Philemon 1:4-7

July 24, 2022

Questions for Application and Fellowship

SERMON REVIEW

Onesimus (which means ‘useful’) was a slave of a believer named Philemon in Colosse. Apparently, Onesimus had stolen from Philemon and fled the city. At some point while Paul was under house arrest in Rome, Onesimus met him and became a Christian. Paul wrote this letter and gave it to Onesimus to carry back to Philemon. Paul appeals to Philemon to welcome Onesimus for love’s sake. This letter puts a spotlight on the power of Christ to transform relationships with His love.

To bring refreshing unity to the church,

1. **A prayer of thanksgiving for love** (1:4-5, 7)
2. **A prayer of petition for growth** (1:6)

Was any point in this weekend’s message or portion of Scripture particularly challenging, encouraging or helpful for you?

Why did God want you to hear this message now?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. When have you been refreshed by the forgiveness or the influence of another Christian? What can you learn from Philemon's example?
2. The tense of Philemon 1:5 indicates that Paul was *continuing* to hear about Philemon's love and faith. This perhaps added to his confidence in sending Onesimus. If you were in a grievance with another person, would others have confidence in approaching you about it? Would they be hesitant? Are you an approachable person? Why qualities make a person such?
3. What does Paul mean by "sharing your faith" in verse 6? Is this sharing the message of the Gospel or your testimony of having faith? Or is Paul thinking of something more comprehensive?
4. Read Ephesians 4:29-5:2. What do we learn about forgiveness from these verses? How might these verses contribute to what it is to share your faith?
5. What complex situation is at hand in your life? Where do you have to appropriate, with God's help, we read in the previous question?