



“Love’s Increasing Quality”

Philemon 1:17-25

August 1, 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 help us grow in Christ-like love, we see:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of love (1:17-18)
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of love (1:19-20)
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of love (1:21-22)
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ of love (1:23-25)

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. What “need to know” and/or “need to grow” trials have you been facing?
2. God stirred the heart of Paul to help Philemon grow in his love of Onesimus. When has another person helped you to grow in your love of someone else? Who is God sending to help you now?
3. Paul asserts a remarkable transaction in verses 17-18. How does it reflect of what Christ has done for us according to II Corinthians 5:21?
4. Even though Paul is confident of Philemon’s character, he is sticking his neck out, laying everything on the line by offering to take up Onesimus’ debt. In what other ways might the Gospel inspire Christians live in self-sacrifice?
5. How is Paul’s confidence in prayer indicated in Philemon 1:22? How does this encourage your prayer life? How can you help someone else with your prayer?
6. In the end, the relationship between Philemon and Onesimus would be transformed by grace. These men would also be reflecting on Colossians 3:12-15. With God’s help, how specifically can you practice the grace taught in that passage this week?