



PHILEMON AND ONESIMUS

Philemon 1-25



HOW DID
Paul *urge*
Philemon to
show his love
for Onesimus?



1. How had Philemon refreshed the hearts of believers? (Philemon 1-7)

a. Read Philemon 1-2. How does Paul address Philemon in his letter?

b. As an active member of the church in Colosse, for what purpose did Philemon offer his home?

c. Read Philemon 3-7. In addition to his home, what else had Philemon freely given to refresh the saints (believers) in Christ Jesus?

Discussion Point

2. What caused Paul to write a letter to Philemon? (Philemon 8-16)

a. Read Philemon 8-11. Why was Paul a prisoner for Christ?

b. What happened to Onesimus when he reached Paul?

c. How did Onesimus put his faith into action?

d. Read Philemon 12-16. What closer relationship could Philemon now have with Onesimus?

Discussion Point

3. Why was Paul confident Philemon would welcome back Onesimus and accept him as a brother in Christ? (Philemon 17-25)

a. Read Philemon 17-21. For what did Paul offer to pay?

b. What did Paul mean when he said to Philemon, "... you owe me your very self"?

c. Read Acts 9:26-28. Tell what Barnabas did for Paul (Saul). How were these actions like those Paul did for Onesimus?

Discussion Point

What, then, is the answer to the Aim question of this lesson?





MEMORY TREASURES

1 John 4:19

We love because he first loved us.

John 13:34

A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

A MESSAGE for Parents: Today your child read the book of Philemon from the Bible and answered this question: How did Paul urge Philemon to show his love for his runaway slave Onesimus? Your child learned that Paul urged Philemon to welcome back Onesimus no longer as a slave but as a brother in the Lord. Ask your child to explain the picture on the lesson sheet. Who is pictured and what are they doing? Discuss with your child the blessing of forgiveness. Our guilt and shame are removed through our dear Savior. Discuss the importance of welcoming others as Christ's brothers and sisters. Briefly review the memory treasures with your child and why each is significant. Today we also discussed the opportunity to welcome those who are or have been in jail or prison and welcome them back to our family of believers. In addition, we can welcome their children to church, Sunday School, or other church activities. We practiced what to say to welcome them.