

WHEN GRACE TRANSFORMED A FAMILY
And it Can Transform Yours Too!
(Philemon 1- 3)

- One of the problems among believers in Christ is ...

A. THE PERSONAL GREETINGS (1-3)

1. The *writer* of this epistle was the apostle _____ . (vs.1a)

- How did he view himself and what can you learn from this? How is this different than his usual description and why?

- **Some facts about the book of Philemon:**

- 1) This small epistle consists of ____ verses and _____ words.
- 2) This was probably delivered by _____ when he brought the epistle to the _____ . (Col.4:7)
- 3) Of Paul's epistles, this is the only one written to an _____ who was not a pastor.
- 4) Of Paul's various letters, this is the only one devoted to addressing a _____ .
- 5) This little epistle addresses the problem of _____ regarding a runaway slave named Onesimus and his master Philemon.
- 6) This epistle assumes that Philemon was already established in sound _____ truths and now needed to apply them to this particular situation.
- 7) In this letter we see the truths of God's grace and the Gospel expressed not in principle or parable but in a _____ .

- **Principle #1: God can begin to transform your relationships when you come to personally know and trust in _____ and then view your life and circumstances in light of your _____ in Him.**

2. The *associate* of Paul in prison was his dear companion _____ . (vs.1b)

- How is he described here and why?

- **Principle #2: God can begin to transform your relationships when you view _____ in light of their relationship / identity _____ or the _____ .**

3. The *recipient* of this letter was _____ . (vs.1c)

- What do we know about him?

- How is Philemon described in vs.1?

- How was he saved and established, and what can we learn from this?(Acts 19:8-10; 2 Tim.2:1-3)

- **Principle #3: God can transform your relationships when they are centered around _____ and your desire to _____ Him.**
4. The *wife* of Philemon was _____, who is being personally greeted. (vs.2a)
- How is she described, and isn't that what you should want for your mate?
 - Why is she even being addressed in light of the culture of the day?
 - **Principle #4: God can transform your relationships when you remember how others are _____ by God and therefore should be _____ by you regardless of their flaws and your culture.**
5. The *son* of Philemon was _____, who is also specifically greeted. (vs.2b)
- How is he described and what does this indicate? (Col.4:17)
 - Isn't this what you would want for your children and family? (Josh.24:15)
 - **Principle #5: God can transform your relationships when you remember to _____ for what God is doing in other's lives, but this process will not be without a _____.**
6. The _____ which met in Philemon's _____ is also corporately greeted. (vs.2c)
- What does this teach us about the true nature of a local church?
 - Why would the whole church be greeted by Paul and this letter probably read to them?
 - What does this remind us about a house?
 - **Principle #6: God can transform your relationships but He usually uses scripturally based _____ as an important part of the process.**
7. The *two-fold greeting* by Paul consisted of him desiring that these believers would enjoy daily _____ and _____. (vs.3)
- Is there any significance to this order?
 - What is "grace" and "peace" referring to specifically in this context – 1st or 2nd tense salvation truths? And where alone does sufficient grace and inner peace come from?
 - **Principle #7: God can transform your relationships but you will need to draw upon His daily _____ and enjoy His _____ as He alone can transform lives and relationships.**