

“The Depth of a Christian Title”  
Philemon 1:1-3

- ***A prisoner for Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:1-13):***
  - Paul was a prisoner of Christ on behalf of the Gentiles so that they could hear and share in the gospel (Ephesians 3:1 & 6).
  - It was a grace that Paul had the privilege to be a prisoner and a minister of the unsearchable riches of Christ (Ephesians 3:7-8).
  - It is a gracious and good thing to suffer for doing good/the gospel. Christ has given us this example (1 Peter 2:19-21).
  - It was through the gospel that men and women could confidently and boldly by faith have access to God; this kind of message is a grace to suffer for (Ephesians 3:12-13).
- ***A brother or sister in Christ (Philemon 1:7 & 16 & 20):***
  - I should receive much joy from my brothers and sisters in Christ (1 John 1:4; 2 John 1:4; 3 John 1:4; 1 Corinthians 12:26).
  - I should receive comfort from my brothers and sisters in Christ (2 Corinthians 1:3-5; Psalm 119:50; 1 Thessalonians 5:11).
  - I should receive refreshment from my brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 16:15-18; 2 Timothy 1:16-18; Romans 15:32).
- ***A fellow worker in Christ (1 Corinthians 3:9)***
  - A fellow worker can be a couple (Romans 16:3-4/Aquila and Priscilla) a man (Philemon 1:1) or a woman (Philippians 4:2-3/Euodia and Syntyche).
  - You are a fellow worker for the gospel when you risk your life so that the gospel can continue to be spread (Romans 16:4).
  - You are a fellow worker when you live out the gospel by having a concern for others welfare at the expense of your own (Philippians 2:20-22).
  - You are a fellow worker when you provide finances, labor, prayers and encouragement for the furthering of the gospel (Philippians 2:25 & 4:18; Colossians 4:12).
- ***A fellow soldier (Philippians 2:25; Colossians 4:17; 2 Timothy 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 9:7-11).***
  - 6 Characteristics of fellow soldiers:
    - They are faithful men (2 Timothy 2:2).
    - They teach the Word (2 Timothy 2:2).
    - They handle suffering well (2 Timothy 2:3).
    - They don't get entangled in the cares of the world (2 Timothy 2:4).
    - They aim to please Christ (2 Timothy 2:4).
    - They give their lives to the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:7-11).
- ***The church in your house (Acts 12:12; Colossians 4:15; 1 Corinthians 16:19; Romans 16:5; Romans 16:23).***
  - It was a normative practice in the New Testament for churches to be held in houses.
  - These home churches were to be free from confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33) but were to be decent and orderly (1 Corinthians 14:40).
  - These home churches were supposed to be led by male eldership (Acts 14:23; 1 Timothy 2:12; 1 Timothy 3:1-7).
  - These home churches had received specific instruction on how to operate for the glory of God (1 Timothy 3:15).

(continued →)

**Worship:** Psalm 18 (Citizens)

**His Mercy is More (Matt Boswell)**

**Service Times:** Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- *Other facts about the book of Philemon:*
  - Paul does not emphasize his Apostolic authority because it is a letter written to a friend.
  - Titus, Timothy, and Philemon were the only ones to receive personal letters from Paul.
  - Paul wanted this letter read to the whole church for a lesson on forgiveness and for accountability.
- *Philemon 1:3*
  - Grace is the means of salvation.
  - Peace is the result of salvation.
  - “God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ” points to the deity of Christ.