

Wycliffe Associates

Bible Translation Reviewers' Guide

Philemon

1:1-25

2

1:1-25

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ While Paul was in prison, he wrote to Philemon and other believers with him. [1:1-3]
- ☐ Paul was thankful for Philemon and prayed he would share his faith effectively. [1:4-7]
- ☐ Paul appealed to Philemon to accept Onesimus back as a brother in Christ. [1:8-20]
- ☐ Paul asked Philemon to prepare a room for him, as he hoped to return to him soon. [1:21-25]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. To whom did Paul write this letter? [1:1]
Paul wrote this letter to his dear friend and fellow worker Philemon.
2. Who else was listed as a receiver of this letter? [1:2]
Apphia, Archippus, and the church that met in Philemon's home were included to receive the letter.
3. What blessing did Paul write in 1:3?
He wrote, "Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
4. Paul thanked God because he heard that Philemon loved whom? [1:4-5]
He loved all God's holy people.
5. For what did Paul say he prayed? [1:6]
He prayed that Philemon would be effective in sharing his faith.
6. What brought joy and comfort to Paul? [1:7]
Paul expressed joy because of Philemon's love for God's holy people, and that their hearts had been refreshed by Philemon.
7. Although Paul could command Philemon to do something, what did he do instead? [1:8-9]
Paul appealed to Philemon instead.
8. How did Paul describe himself? [1:9]
Paul said he was an old man and a prisoner for Christ Jesus.
9. How did Paul describe his relationship with Onesimus? [1:10]
Paul called Onesimus his child and said he fathered him while in chains.
10. What do you think Paul meant by saying he fathered Onesimus while in chains? [1:10]
Perhaps Paul meant that while he was in prison, he became Onesimus' spiritual father because he taught Onesimus the gospel and taught him to believe in Jesus.

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11. How did Paul describe Onesimus? [1:11]

Paul said Onesimus was once useless to Philemon but now was useful to both Philemon and Paul.

12. What did Paul do with Onesimus? [1:12]

Paul sent Onesimus back to Philemon.

13. What do you think Paul meant by saying Onesimus was his very heart? [1:12]

Perhaps Paul meant that he dearly loved Onesimus.

14. What did Paul say he wished he could have done with Onesimus? [1:13]

Paul wished he could have kept Onesimus as a helper while Paul was in prison.

15. Why did Paul say he did not want to do anything without Philemon's consent? [1:14]

Paul wanted Philemon's good deed to come from Philemon's good will and not because he needed to do it.

16. What did Paul say might be the reason for which Philemon and Onesimus were separated? [1:15]

Paul said that maybe they were separated for a while so that Philemon might have Onesimus back forever.

17. What did Paul want Philemon to do with Onesimus? [1:16]

Paul wanted Philemon to accept Onesimus as a brother in Christ instead of as a slave.

18. How did Paul ask Philemon to receive Onesimus? [1:17]

Paul asked Philemon to receive Onesimus just as he would receive Paul.

19. What did Paul offer to do for Philemon regarding Onesimus? [1:18]

Paul said if Onesimus had wronged Philemon or owed him anything, Philemon should charge it to Paul.

20. How did Paul say he wrote the letter? [1:19]

He wrote it with his own hand.

21. What did Philemon owe Paul? [1:19]

Philemon owed Paul his very life.

22. What was Paul's request in 1:20?

Paul asked that he might benefit from Philemon in the Lord and that Philemon would refresh Paul's heart in Christ.

23. What did Paul know about how Philemon would respond to his request? [1:21]

Paul was confident that Philemon would obey his request and that Philemon would do more than Paul had requested.

24. What did Paul ask Philemon to do in 1:22?

Paul asked Philemon to prepare a guest room for him.

25. Who did Paul say greeted Philemon? [1:23-24]

Epaphras, Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke all greeted Philemon.

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26. How did Paul end this letter? [1:25]

Paul blessed Philemon with the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and asked that Jesus Christ's spirit be with him.

Comment Section: