



OPENING THOUGHTS

Keeping Unity in the church
 Eph 4:3; Col 4:3; Phil 2:2; Col 2:19

INTRODUCTION TO PHILEMON

- Smallest letter least mentioned
- It has very little to do with declaring doctrine for the New Testament church
- Paul is not writing to lay the foundation for the New Testament church,
- Paul is also not writing to encourage the leadership of the churches.

THREE VERY DIFFERENT MEN

- A. Paul—the _____
- B. Philemon—the _____ of the letter
 Deut 15:12—13; 1 Cor 9:20–22
- C. Onesimus—the _____ of the letter
 Col 4:18; Eph 4:7

THE FOUR FACES OF GRACE

- _____ Grace
- _____ Grace
- _____ Grace
- _____ Grace

#1 GOD'S GRACE: SAVING AND SANCTIFYING

- A. Vs 3: Grace to you
 2 Cor 13:14

Observe 3 points;
 Grace of the Lord
 Love of God
 Communion of the Holy Spirit

- B. Grace is simply God's expression of his love for you
- C. The unmerited unearned favor of God and sometimes described as "that which you did not deserve"

Defined: Grace is the _____ free expression of the _____ of God to men having its only motive the benevolent loving kindness of God

Grace stands in _____ to works and are mutually exclusive

God's grace affects man's _____ and not only _____ the repentant sinner, but brings _____ and thankfulness to him.

It changes the individual to a new creature without _____ his individuality

#2 REFRESHING GRACE: GREAT JOY

To refresh means to _____ someone's spirit, to encourage their heart, and to offer comfort through service or words - 1 Thes 5:11

Paul's concern for encouraging and empowering all believers

The word Effectual (vs 6) is the word "engergress" meaning to have power in expressing grace to refresh others

That word effectual (vs6) is translated from energress (en-ger-gass) meaning to have power by expression of grace to _____ others.

- B. Paul's concern for Philemon directly

He wants to have his approval for Onesimus' return and his ministry
 He wants Philemon's buy in on this idea, he wants him to be "like minded"

C. Paul's encouragement in relationships

#3 VS 22: GIVING GRACE

The word "given" in this verse is used in a special way.

It is derived (its Root word) is from the same Greek word as grace in that it means to testify or witness of grace

Grace for Grace is a reference to you to allow God's grace to _____ you to another and never turning off the tap of grace to everyone

#4 VS 25: LIVING GRACE

The grace given to us is expressed or seen in _____ with others because living grace is the best bond in every relationship

EXPERIENCING GRACE

A. Grace grants freedom

John 8:36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed

B. Grace brings freedom

2Co 3:17 KJV Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

B. Grace can't _____ in the presence of pride

Jas 4:6 KJV But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Humility and grace are almost synonymous
They are so linked together it is almost impossible to separate them
Paul's humility is seen in his writing to make such a request
Onesimus' humility is seen in his willingness to return to the scene of the crime

Philemon's humility is seen in his acceptance of Onesimus

C. Grace _____, _____ and _____ the body

D. Grace and forgiveness are _____
Eph 4:32

Eph 4:32 KJV And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Col 2:13 KJV And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

The word forgiven in both Eph 4:32 and Col 2:13 are the same Greek word as grace

So to forgive someone is to grace them, to withhold forgiveness is to withhold grace.

CONCLUSION

2 Peter 3:18 But grow in grace, and [in] the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him [be] glory both now and for ever. Amen.