

## Scriptural Charge and Exhortation

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."

– Jesus

## Knowing, Loving, Serving Christ ... Together

Week 1 :: Philemon 1:1-7

Week 2 :: Philemon 1:8-14

Week 3 :: Philemon 1:15-21

Week 4 :: Philemon 1:22-25

**REVIEW** Philemon

## Why Memorize Scripture? By John Piper

**CONFORMITY TO CHRIST** - Bible memorization has the effect of making our gaze on Jesus steadier and clearer.

**DAILY TRIUMPH OVER SIN** - As sin lures the body into sinful action, we call to mind a Christ-revealing word of Scripture and slay the temptation with the superior worth and beauty of Christ over what sin offers.

**DAILY TRIUMPH OVER SATAN** - When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness he recited Scripture from memory and put Satan to flight.

**COMFORT AND COUNSEL FOR PEOPLE YOU LOVE** - When the heart full of God's love can draw on the mind full of God's word, timely blessings flow from the mouth.

**COMMUNICATING THE GOSPEL TO UNBELIEVERS** - Actual verses of the Bible have their own penetrating power. And when they come from our heart, as well as from the Book, the witness is given that they are precious enough to learn.

**COMMUNION WITH GOD IN THE ENJOYMENT OF HIS PERSON AND WAYS** - The way we commune with (that is, fellowship with) God is by meditating on his attributes and expressing to him our thanks and admiration and love, and seeking his help to live a life that reflects the value of these attributes.

**Week 1 :: Philemon 1:1-7**

- 1 Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker
- 2 and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:
- 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 4 I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers,
- 5 because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints,
- 6 and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ.
- 7 For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

**Week 3 :: Philemon 1:15-21**

- 15 For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever,
- 16 no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.
- 17 So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me.
- 18 If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account.
- 19 I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self.
- 20 Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.
- 21 Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

**Week 2 :: Philemon 1:8-14**

- 8 Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required,
- 9 yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus—
- 10 I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment.
- 11 (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.)
- 12 I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart.
- 13 I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel,
- 14 but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord.

**Week 4 :: Philemon 1:22-25**

- 22 At the same time, prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that through your prayers I will be graciously given to you.
- 23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you,
- 24 and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.
- 25 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.