



Dear Philemon,

► In your Bible and Discipleship this week:

In your Bible this week:

Read one of these passages each day to deepen the impact of the sermon and to prepare for next week. Utilize your Life Journal pages or a note book, writing down a word, phrase or verse that especially speaks to you, then applying the SOAP process. Then, SOAK in God's presence with meditation and prayer.

Further study from this week's sermon, read:

1. Philemon 1-25.
2. Colossians 1:1-29.
3. Colossians 2:1-23.
4. Colossians 3:1-4:18.
5. Philippians 1:1-2:18.

Discussion questions for processing the sermon with your disciple buddy or small group. Why not grab someone and use these questions to discuss the sermon in the Gathering Center after church?

1. Describe some problem situation you've had with someone at work. What did this person do that hurt or offended you? How did you deal with it? In light of Paul's letter to Philemon how can you now deal with such situations?
2. Read Colossians 3:22-4:1. While Paul doesn't outright ask Philemon to free Onesimus from slavery, it is strongly suggested. Why didn't Jesus or Paul condemn slavery that was widespread in the Roman Empire? What would have happened if Paul had condemned slavery and called for a slave uprising? How has the influence of Jesus and the New Testament affected slavery in succeeding centuries?
3. Read 1 Peter 2:13-24. How do instructions given to Christians who were slaves then apply to Christian employees now?