

*Welcome To Sunday Night Bible Fellowship*

Every word inspired.



Every word proclaimed.

*"We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ." Col 1:28*

***"Your Character is Showing"***

***Philemon 1:4-7***

October 4, 2020

**Philemon 1-7**

1 Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To Philemon our beloved brother and fellow worker,

2 and to Apphia our sister, and to Archippus our fellow soldier, and  
to 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, making mention of you in my prayers,

5 because I hear of your love and of the faith which you have  
toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints;

6 and I pray that the fellowship of your faith may become effective  
through the knowledge of every good thing which is in you for  
Christ's sake.

7 For I have come to have much joy and comfort in your love,  
because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through  
you, brother.

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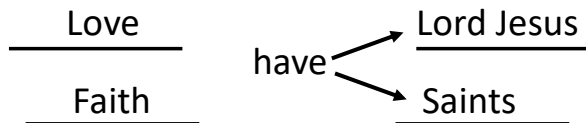
**4 I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers,**

- Philemon's life is the cause for thanksgiving.
- Every time Paul prays, he just can't help giving thanks for Philemon. Philemon is never forgotten.
- Paul is saying, "Philemon, every time I look at your life I can't help thanking God for you."
- Is that what people say about your life?
- Knowing that someone is thankful for your life will go a long way to motivate you.
- Paul in 1 Thess. 5 says, "Pray without ceasing." Can you see why?
  - Paul always had a lot to pray for.
  - It motivates people.

**5 because I hear of your love and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints;**

What does Paul hear about Philemon's life that makes him thankful?

1. You love the Lord.
- "love"** – αγαπη – based on the one loving not the one loved.
2. You have faith in what Christ can do.
  3. You love the saints.
  4. You have faith in what the saints can do.



**Philemon 4-7**

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Don't look now but  
your character is showing.

## Philemon 4-7

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## Col 1:9-10

9 For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

10 so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord,

**6 and I pray that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of every good thing which is in you for Christ's sake.**

- Based on the character of Philemon, Paul prays that Philemon would come to know and experience fellowship on an even deeper level.

**“fellowship”** – κοινοβνια - partnership, companionship, participation, fellowship, commonness.

**“effective”** – ενεργησ – powerful.

**“knowledge”** – επιγνωσισ – full knowledge, experiential knowledge.

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- Paul is saying, “Philemon, you have such great Christian character and I want people to see it in even a greater way. I want you to demonstrate your belief in the importance of fellowship in the body of Christ.”
- Philemon is going to experience what he knows in a greater way and those around him (family, friends, church, community) are going to see it and God is going to be glorified.
- This is going to be powerful. It is going to have a great impact.

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- In verse 5 Paul testifies to hearing great things about Philemon but now Paul tells his own experience about Philemon
- Paul got much joy and comfort from the life of Philemon.
- It was because of Philemon's love which was demonstrated toward other believers.

**"hearts"** – σπλαγχνα – inward parts – spleen, intestine, liver, bowels. The deepest part of you.

**"refreshed"** – αναπαυω – stop-rest-be refreshed, cease from labor, to hold-up, in order to recover and collect your strength.

\*Military and agricultural term.

- Philemon brought people rest, spiritual refreshment.
- He came to the hurting, the suffering, the depressed, the discouraged, those in trial, those tired, those frustrated, and he refreshed them all.