

Philemon Series
Week 1 outline
9.12.21
Philemon 1:1-7

A Shared Partnership in the Faith

I. Philemon the Letter (vs1-3)

-**Author:** the apostle Paul (Philemon 1:1).

-**Date of Writing:** approximately A. D. 60.

-**Purpose of Writing:**

This letter is a call to life in the new community of Christ with a shared partnership of faith, changed relationship with one another, shared life demonstrating the Gospel, and refreshed heart in the fellowship of the saints.

II. Philemon the Person (vs 4-5)

-Philemon hosted a church in his home in the city of Colossae.

-Like many if not all Heads-of-households in the Roman world, he owned slaves; one of whom was named Onesimus.

-The slave Onesimus at some point had a conflict with Philemon and Onesimus wronged him.

-Onesimus then ran away, later meeting Paul.

-Through Paul's witnessing to him, Onesimus had become a Christian and then a beloved assistant of Paul.

-Onesimus is returning to Colossae and Philemon but Paul is calling on Philemon to embrace Onesimus no longer as a slave but as a brother in Christ.

III. Koinonia: Community in Christ (vs 6-7)

A. The Effectiveness of Koinonia Community

1. **"Deeper understanding"** Recognition; Real and True knowledge"

-a "deepening of the acknowledgment"

2. **"of every good thing we share"**

-the self-sacrificial offering of ones own will and ways for the good of Body

3. **"For the sake of Christ"**

-not for my SAKE (my prestige, comfort, or success) but Jesus' glory

COMMUNITY IN CHRIST IS NOT THE AIM, IT'S THE BYPRODUCT
OUR AIM IS TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES TO SEE, HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL
OF JESUS CHRIST.

B. The Essentials of Koinonia Community

1. Collaborative Worship (of the Triune God) Phil 2:1-11

-The common sharing in Spirit, with the mindset of Christ,
for the glory of the Father

-Koinonia is the best description of the intimate, extravagant, and communal
relationship of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

-it's the Oneness of God expressed in the gathered Church in worship

2. Participative Fellowship (of the Saints) Heb 13:16; Romans 15:26

-The sacrificial sharing and contribution among the Saints

3. Contributive Partnership (in the Gospel) Phil 1:4-5

-The partnership of stakeholders in the kingdom of God for the sake of the
Gospel

KOINONIA COMMUNITY IS SHAPED BY
THE SHARED COLLABORATION OF WORSHIP;
THE SHARED PARTICIPATION OF FELLOWSHIP;
AND THE SHARED CONTRIBUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

C. The Lasting Effects of Koinonia Community (vs7)

1. Great Joy
2. Encouragement
3. Refreshed hearts

IV. What Will Our Community Be Known For?

Beginning a legacy of love for the saints and faith in the Lord Jesus

1. Grow: begin with the end in mind... his name is Jesus
2. Serve: Make a choice to build up rather than tear down the community of believers
3. Connect: Invest sacrificially in the fellowship of the saints