

Your Personal Bible Reading Guide

YEAR 2: NEW TESTAMENT
ACTS, EPISTLES, AND REVELATION

GROUP QUESTIONS

August 28 – August 31, 2021

Philemon

Watch the Philemon Overview (The Bible Project):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aW9Q3Jt6Yvk>

1. What do we learn about Paul and Philemon from Paul's introduction? [**Philemon 1-3**]
2. Why does Paul tell Philemon that he wants to "appeal to you on the basis of love" rather than issue an order? How might this approach be relevant to the church today? [**Philemon 4-10**]
3. Why does Paul send Onesimus back when he could be of use to Paul during his imprisonment? [**Philemon 11-16**]
4. What is Paul's hope for the way Philemon will receive the request to release Onesimus as a slave? [**Philemon 17-22**]
5. Paul is often critiqued for not speaking strongly enough against slavery. In light of this passage, how would you answer that critique? You may want to compare this passage to other places where Paul mentions the relationship between slaves and masters. [**1 Corinthians 7:20-24; 12:13 | Ephesians 6:5-9 | Colossians 3:22-25 | 1 Peter 2:18-22**]

