

Philemon An Unlikely Brother

The Backstory

The Ultimate Drive-By Guilt

Philemon

The Elephant In The Room

Mark 8:36/ Ephesians 6:5-9/ 1 Corinthians 5:9-13

Our Radical Unity In Christ

The moment we become a Jesus follower...

(1) We become _____ with Jesus.

Romans 8:17/ Titus 3:4-8/ Ephesians 2:3-10/ Matthew 20:1-16

(2) We become _____ in the body of Christ.

Galatians 3:28/ 1 Corinthians 12:22-25

(3) We continue to live in a fallen world where _____ and _____ still reign.

2 Corinthians 4:4

(4) We all have the same _____.

Colossians 3:17/ Ephesians 6:5-9/ 1 Corinthians 7:17-23/ Mark 12:30-31/ Matthew 18:21-35

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Our Radical Unity In Christ

The moment we become a Jesus follower...

(1) We become **JOINT HEIRS** with Jesus.

Romans 8:17/ Titus 3:4-8/ Ephesians 2:3-10/ Matthew 20:1-16

(2) We become **EQUAL PEERS** in the body of Christ.

Galatians 3:28/ 1 Corinthians 12:22-25

(3) We continue to live in a fallen world where **INEQUALITY** and **INJUSTICE** still reign.

2 Corinthians 4:4

(4) We all have the same **RESPONSIBILITIES**.

Colossians 3:17/ Ephesians 6:5-9/ 1 Corinthians 7:17-23/ Mark 12:30-31/ Matthew 18:21-35

Food for Thought for the week of August 8, 2021

(Readings and questions for the further study of the Book of Philemon)

Day 1 – Read Philemon 1:1-7 and Ephesians 1. Being joint heirs with Christ means all the rights, privileges and responsibilities belonging to Christ will belong to us. Some of our inheritance in Christ is yet to come in Heaven, but some of it we can experience right now. Which parts of your inheritance in Christ that you can experience now, as laid out in Ephesians 1, are you exercising and walking in daily? Which are you not walking in daily that you could be?

Day 2 – Read Philemon 1:8-16, Colossians 3:11-25 and Philippians 2:3-11. We each have different roles in life, but no matter the role we have, we are called to put the needs and interests of others first. Make a list of the prominent roles you have in your life. Next to each one, write how that role calls you to put others first. How well are you doing at purposing each of the roles in your life to love and serve others?

Day 3 – Read Philemon 1:16-25 and 1 Corinthians 12. Despite the different perspectives, gifts and roles we each have in the body, we are all peers in Christ. The body needs each part to be unified, and no one part has more value than another. Are there any parts of the body you have a hard time seeing as having equal value with another? Are there areas where you are undervaluing or overvaluing your role or the roles of others in the body of Christ?

Day 4 – Take some time to thank God for what He has given you as a joint heir with Christ and for the role you and others play in the body. Ask Him what He might have for you to lean into in light of your role or what He has already done for you.

Summer Classes

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