



Refresh my heart in Christ!  
Philemon 1:1-25



**Map 18**  
**THE EARLIEST CHURCHES**

0 Miles 300  
0 Kilometres 300

† Churches to whom John wrote (Revelation 1—3)  
† Other Churches of the Apostolic age

† Rome

† Puteoli

Thessalonica †  
Philippi †

Nicopolis †

Corinth †  
Athens †

Troas †  
Pergamum †  
Thyatira †  
Sardis †  
Smyrna †  
Ephesus †  
Milecus †

† Colossae  
† Perga

Philadelphia †  
Laodicea †  
Antioch †  
Lystra †  
Iconium †  
Derbe †

Edessa †

† Antioch

Salamis †  
Paphos †

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Cyrene †

Alexandria †

Sidon †  
Tyre †  
Damascus †

Caesarea †  
Pella †  
Samaria †  
Jerusalem †



# Philemon 1:1-3

Verses 1-3:

Paul, a **prisoner for Christ Jesus** and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our **beloved fellow worker** 2 and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the **church in your house** 3 **Grace** to you and **peace** from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.



# Philemon 1:4-7

- 4 I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, 5 because I hear of your **love and of the faith** that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, 6 and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. 7 For I have derived much **joy and comfort from your love**, my brother, because the **hearts (splanchna)** of the saints have been **refreshed** through you.



- Do you have someone or a group of people who can refresh your heart?
- Have you also been a source of refreshment for others?



# Philemon 1:8-11

- 8 Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, 9 yet for **love's sake I prefer to appeal to you** - I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus - 10 I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. 11 (Formerly he was **useless (achreston)** to you, but now he is indeed **useful (euchreston)** to you and to me.)



# Philemon 1:12-16

- 12 I am sending him back to you, sending **my very heart (splanchna)**. 13 I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, 14 but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. 15 For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, 16 **no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother-** especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.



- How am I?
- Are people around me witnessing continuous transformation in my life?
- Or am I still the same?

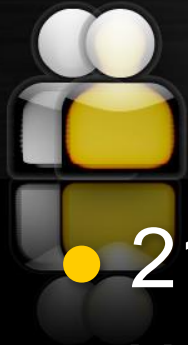




We are **first and foremost** a witness for Christ even before we are another person's employer or co-worker.



• 17 So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. 18 If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. 19 I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it- to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. 20 Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. **Refresh my heart in Christ.**



• 21 Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. 22 At the same time, prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that through your prayers I will be graciously given to you. 23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, 24 and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers. 25 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.



• 17 So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. 18 If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. 19 I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it- to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. 20 Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. **Refresh my heart in Christ.**