

Observing Things Through Drama

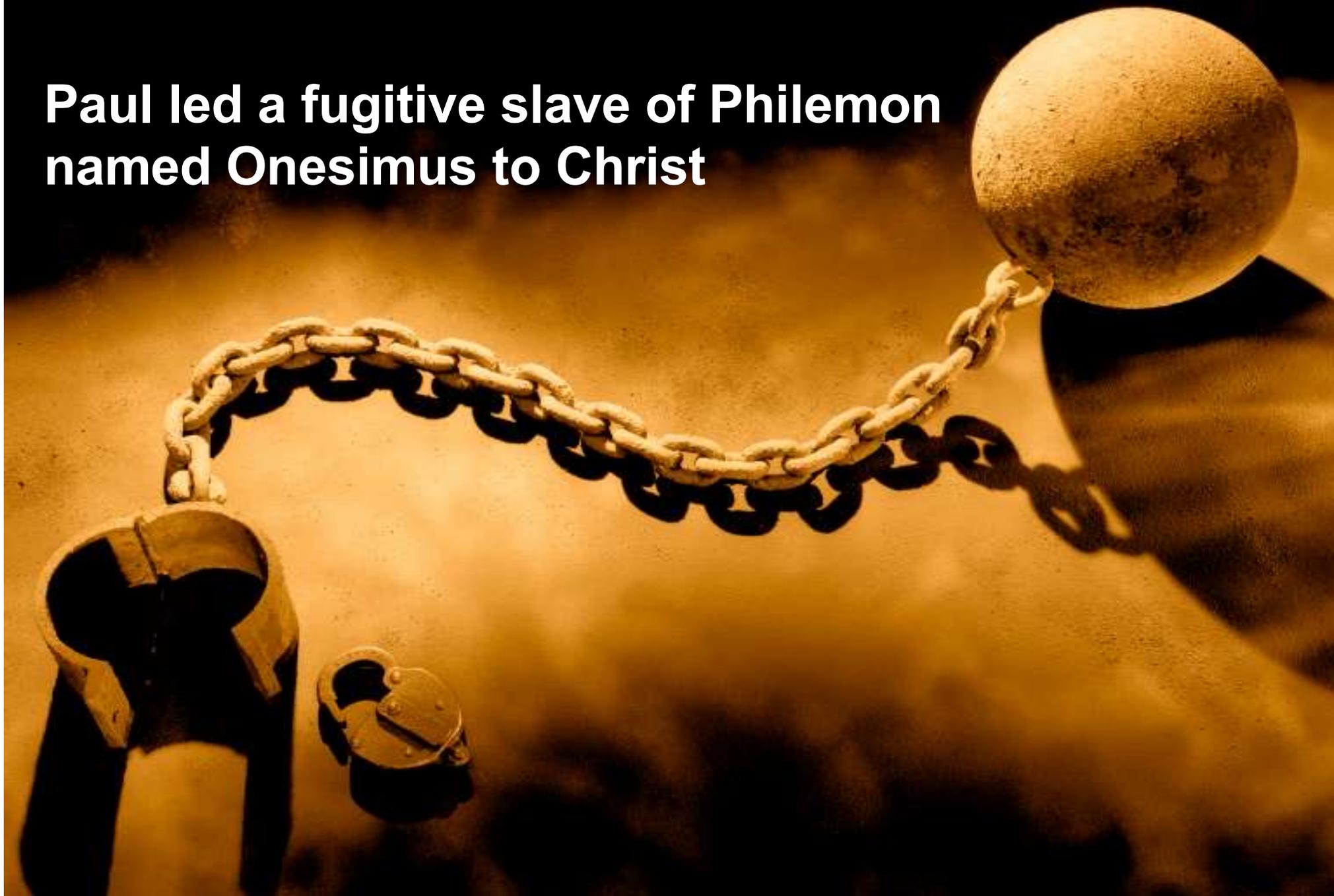
The background of the slide features an open book with its pages slightly curved. A bright, warm light emanates from the center of the book, creating a lens flare effect that radiates upwards and outwards, illuminating the text above. The overall color palette is dominated by warm browns, yellows, and oranges, with a dark blue/black gradient at the bottom.

Dr. Rick Griffith • Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary • BibleStudyDownloads.org

Dramatizing the Postcard to Philemon

. Occasion .

**Paul led a fugitive slave of Philemon
named Onesimus to Christ**



Philemon

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Forgive Others and Seek Forgiveness

Greeting 1-3		Prayer & Commendation 4-7		Appeal for Onesimus 8-21			Conclusion 22-25
Preface		Praise		Petition			Postscript
People Concerned		Philemon's Character		Onesimus' Conversion			Paul's Co-Workers
Authors 1a-b	Recipients 1c-3	Thanks 4-5	Relationships 6-7	General Appeal 8-11	Reasons for Return 12-16	Specific Appeal 17-21	Preparations Greetings Blessing 22-25

Rome to Colosse

Fall AD 61

. Summary Statement .

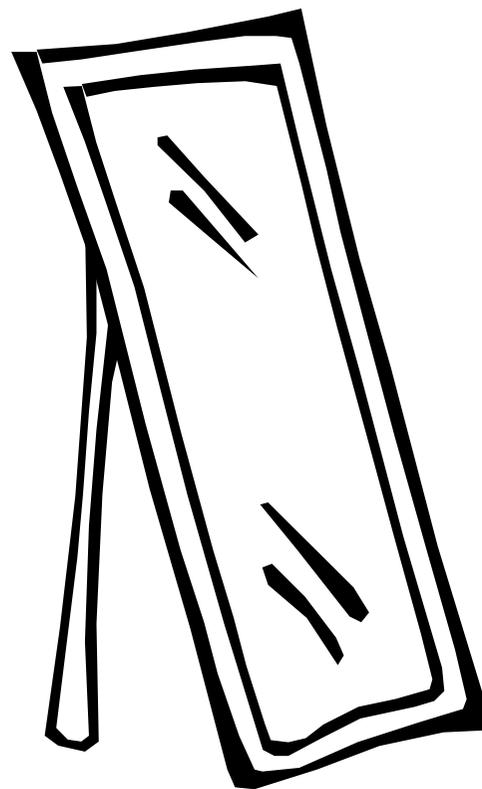


Paul requests the Christian slave owner, Philemon, to forgive his runaway but repentant slave, Onesimus, whom Paul led to Christ and sent back to Philemon to be received as a Christian brother and to teach forgiveness.

● Application ●

With whom do you best relate to now?

- 1. Philemon**
- 2. Onesimus**
- 3. Paul**
- 4. The Church**



Basic Steps to Gain a Forgiving Spirit

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The Via Appia, "Queen of Roman roads," which was the road from Rome that Onesimus took back to Colosse for Philemon's forgiveness

1. Realize that God is working through the actions of your offender

2. Thank God for the benefit He plans through each offense

3. Discern what character qualities God wants to develop in me through the offense

4. Expect to suffer for doing right as a normal part of Christian living

Bill Gothard, IBLP

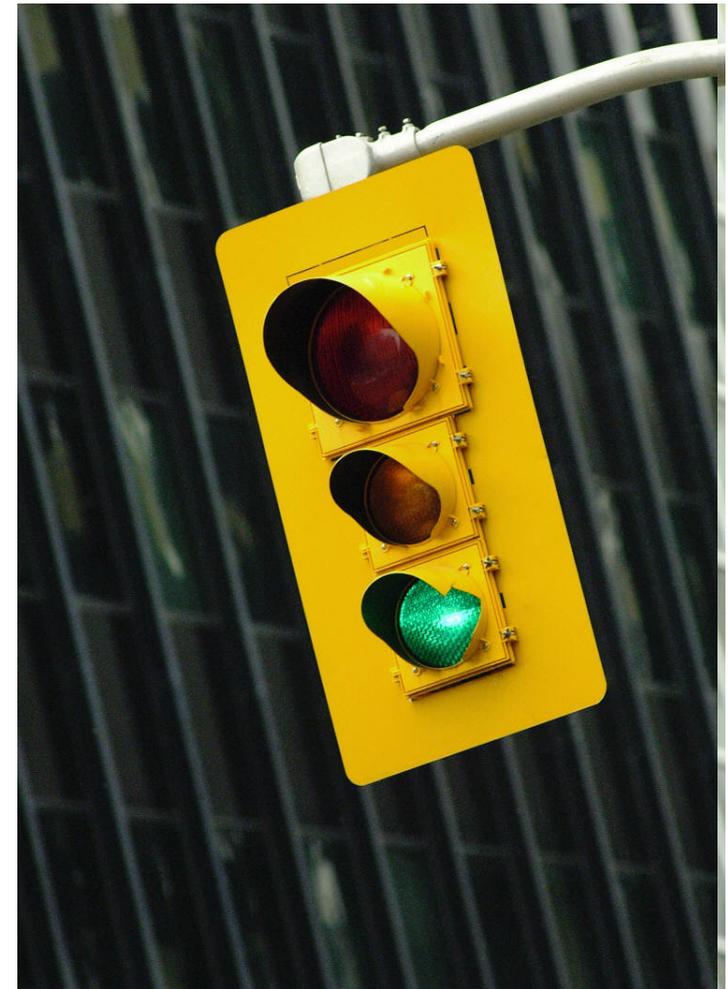
How do I ask forgiveness?

**Never say, "I'm sorry"
(period/full stop).**

**Say, "Will you forgive me
for _____"**

(specify your offense).

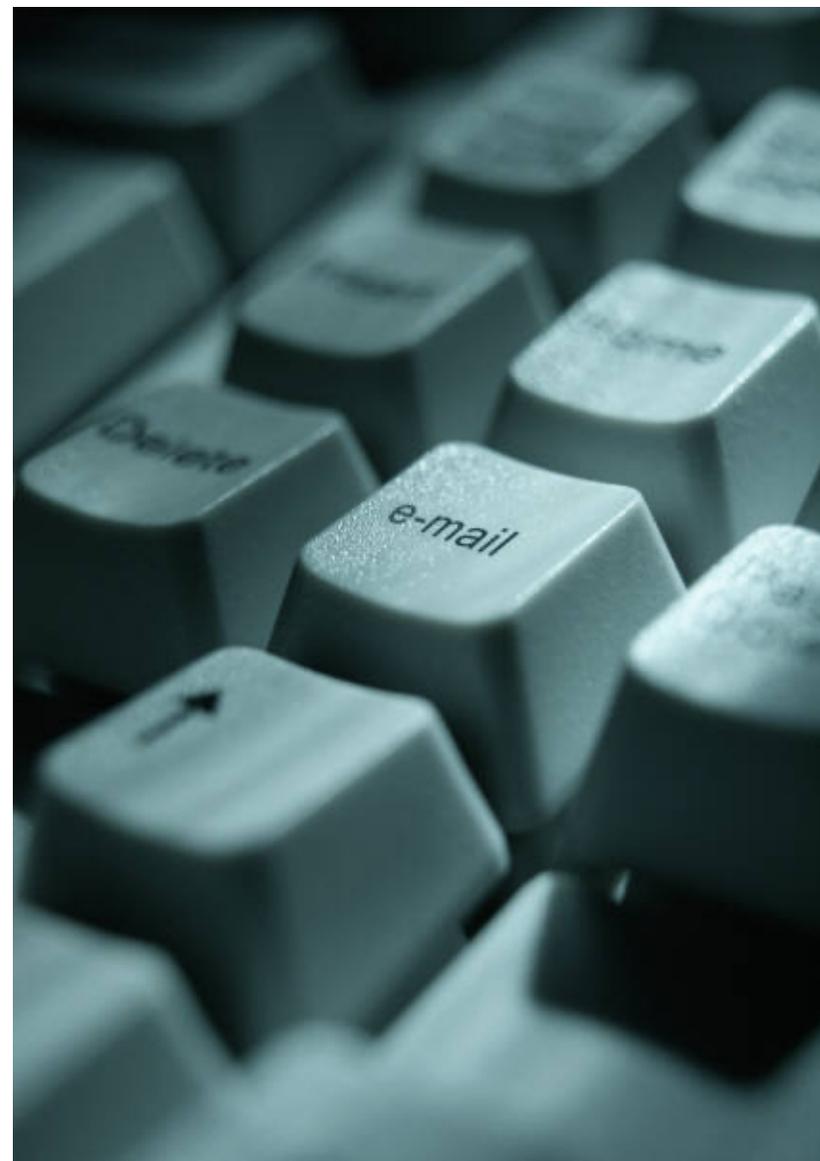
Philemon 10,18



How do I ask forgiveness?

Not by phone or letter or fax or text message or facebook or Twitter or email or through mediators...

Onesimus traveled 1400 km to speak to Philemon in person



How do I ask forgiveness?

**Demonstrate
humility without
concern for saving
face.**

**Philemon 1,8-9, 14
(cf. Gal. 6:1b,3-4)**



How do I ask forgiveness?



Remember that your response is not a private issue, but public, involving many people.

Philemon 1-2, 25 (plural)

How do I ask forgiveness?

Make the request for forgiveness as public as the offense.

**a. Public sins require public apology
(1 Tim. 5:20)**

**b. Private sins require private apology
(Matt. 18:15)**



Restoring Relationships

General Principle

Romans 12:18

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

For the Offender: GO!

Matthew 5:23-24

James 5:16



For the Offended: GO!

Matthew 18:15

Galatians 6:1

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