

Philemon

Key Peeps

Paul – in prison, missionary, “Paul the aged” elder of a church movement throughout Asia and Europe.

Philemon – The head of a house church à offshoot from the Ephesian group.

Onisimus – Runaway servant to Philemon turned saint through time with Paul.

Section 1: Unity

A. “For Love’s Sake” (For Goodness sake)

Because of how important the gospel is

1 Cor 9:23, And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.

Because of Christ Himself

Eph 4:32, And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Because of what Christ did

1 Cor 4:10, We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honorable, but we are despised.

|| Unity requires proper focus ||

To continue in _____ , _____ must happen

{purity, honesty}

Q: Do your emotions interfere with unity?

(Section 1: Unity)

B. Personal Investment

|| Unity requires proper pouring out ||

“Making mention of you always”

His prayers are investment (pray, give, go) | Do not think that you cannot contribute to the unity of the body, or that you don't have anything to give!

His life is invested in men/places/slaves.

When Phil 2:2-4 is true in your life, your investment is the same.

Philippians 2:2-4 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Physical

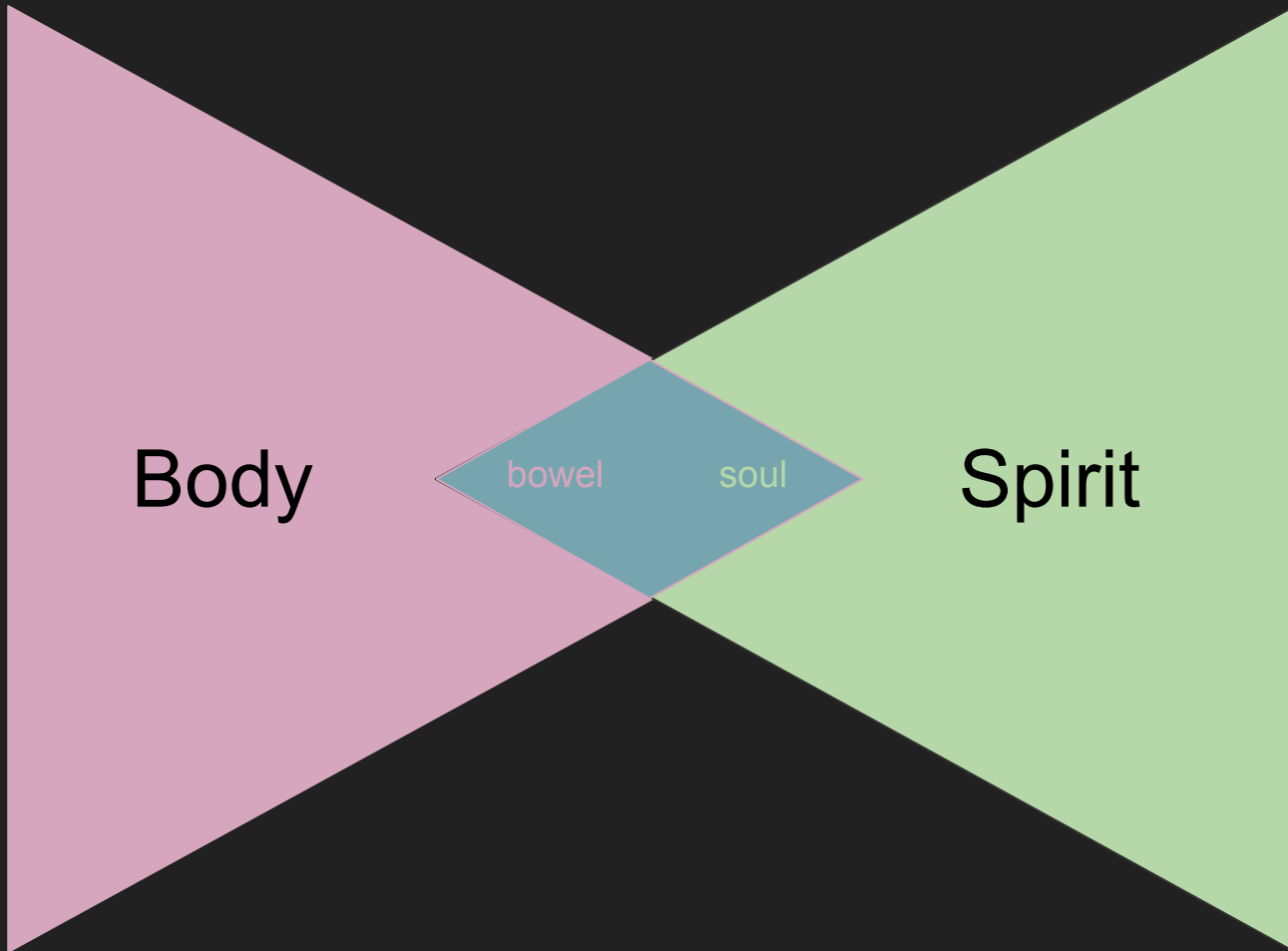
Body

bowel

soul

Spirit

Spiritual



Q: Where are you personally invested?

(Section 1: Unity)

C. “In you, in Christ Jesus”

None of this matters outside of Christ

Rom 1:16, ¶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

1 Cor 1: 24, But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

|| Unity requires proper recognition ||

We cannot do anything/add anything/bring anything good to the table. Christ was THE sacrifice!

Psalms 69:31-32, This also shall please the LORD better than an ox or bullock that hath horns and hoofs. The humble shall see this, and be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God.

Amos 5:21-22 I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies. Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

Q: Do you depend on Christ or (x)?

Section 2: The Gospel

A. “For the gospel’s sake”

Paul doesn’t preach the gospel in Philemon

Paul // Good Samaritan

|| The gospel deserves the proper model ||

Luke 10:30-35, And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

The similarities are striking

Q: Do we preach the gospel or live it?

(Section 2: The Gospel)

B. “Equal Share”

A brand new convert was as valuable or more than Philemon to Paul

Romans 2:11 For there is no respect of persons with God.

1 Cor 3: 4-9, For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

1 Cor 3:21-23 Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

|| The gospel deserves a proper view ||



$$2 + 2 =$$

Q: Am I a respecter of persons?

(Section 2: The Gospel)

C. “Christ’s Work”

Grace – Forgiveness – Redemption

The man ran away a slave, and returned a saint

|| The gospel deserves proper respect ||

1 Cor 15:42-49 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Onisimus deserved to be in jail or dead. But he found himself a blessing to the church. Does that sound familiar?

Q: At a time when kings go forth to battle, will you?

Q: Is there not a cause?

Q: How long do you have left?