Name Date

Handout 3-B

**The Letter to Philemon**

**Part I: Comprehension Questions**

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Who else is sending the Letter to Philemon?

2. What proof does the letter give that Philemon is a Christian?

3. What does Paul reveal about himself in this letter?

4. How does Paul want Philemon to receive Onesimus?

5. What does Paul promise to do concerning any possible harm Onesimus might have caused?

6. How does he try to convince Philemon that his offer is sincere?

7. What verse reports that Paul hopes to see Philemon again?

8. What does Paul’s Letter to Philemon tell us about Jesus and his Good News?

**Part II: Creative Writing Assignment**

Choose one of the following creative writing assignments to complete in about one typed page.

A. **Imagine that you are Philemon.** Write a letter back to Paul that explains what it was like to be re- united with Onesimus. Did you receive him back “as a brother,” as Paul requested? Why or why not?

B. **Imagine that you are Onesimus.** Write a letter to Paul that describes what it was like to return to Philemon. How did he receive you? Now that you are a Christian, in what ways is your life with Phi- lemon different?

C. **Imagine that you Apphia or Archippus—one of the members of the Christian church that meets at Philemon’s house.** Write a letter to Paul that describes Onesimus’s return to Philemon’s house- hold. What did you observe? How did you feel? What changes do you perceive in Philemon, Onesi- mus, or in their attitudes toward each other?