

NOTES

Your story is too valuable to lose. Your story is too important to keep silent. Your story is too surprising to sit on.

Philemon 8-11 (NIV) - Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul — an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus — that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me.

What is it about your story that is so compelling?

- 1. It possesses drama.
- 2. It provides details.
- 3. It promotes God's design.

The book of Philemon provides a blueprint for how to know, tell and believe your story.

Paul uses 445 words to tell the story of forgiveness.

Don't let the size fool you. The story is riveting and has three actors: Philemon, Paul, Onesimus.

Never underestimate what God can do in prison.

Philemon 10-11 (NIV) - ... that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me.

When you make a mistake, make your mistake work for you.

Your mistake is a part of your story.

God wants others to benefit from your mistakes.



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