



Activity and Summary Sheet: Confidence in Obedience—Living Out Grace and Forgiveness

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Live Gracefully | Build Trust | Transform Relationships

This activity and summary sheet explores Paul's confident appeal to Philemon, encouraging believers to live out grace and forgiveness in practical ways. Through thoughtful discussions, creative activities, and personal reflections, discover how obedience to Christ's teachings fosters reconciliation, unity, and spiritual growth. Let this guide inspire you to embrace a grace-filled life, building trust and transforming your relationships in the light of the gospel.

Introduction

Blog Summary

The blog post delves into Philemon 1:21-22, where Paul expresses confidence in Philemon's obedience to his appeal for Onesimus. This passage highlights the transformative power of grace and forgiveness in relationships, inspiring believers to act in love and unity. Paul's confidence reflects his trust in the transformative work of the gospel and serves as a reminder for us to live out grace and forgiveness in our daily lives, demonstrating Christ's love in every interaction. His letter challenges readers to embrace grace-driven actions that promote healing, trust, and reconciliation within their communities.

Key Verse

Philemon 1:21 (NIV): *"Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask."*

Reflection Questions

1. How does Paul's confidence in Philemon encourage us to trust others to act in love and obedience?
2. What does it mean to live out grace and forgiveness in practical ways?
3. How can the gospel inspire confidence in relationships and reconciliation?
4. What steps can you take to demonstrate forgiveness and trust in strained relationships?
5. How does obedience to Christ's teachings shape your interactions with others?
6. What actions can you take today to inspire trust and reconciliation in others?
7. How can we use Scripture to guide us in building grace-centered relationships?

Section 1: Interactive Activities

1. Trust and Obedience Role-Play

Objective: Practice demonstrating trust, forgiveness, and obedience in various scenarios.

Materials Needed:

- Scenario cards depicting relational conflicts.
- Bibles for reference.
- Journals for reflections.
- Stickers or badges for participation encouragement.

Instructions:

1. **Present Scenarios:** Provide participants with cards detailing situations requiring trust, forgiveness, or obedience (e.g., forgiving a friend, resolving a disagreement, or extending grace to someone who has wronged them).
2. **Role-Play:** Participants act out the scenarios, focusing on resolving issues with grace and trust.
3. **Discussion:** Reflect on how acting with obedience to Christ's teachings influenced the resolution. Ask participants to share insights on the emotional and spiritual impact of their actions.
4. **Biblical Insight:** Use Scriptures like Matthew 5:23-24, Colossians 3:13, and Ephesians 4:32 to guide understanding. Explore how these verses apply to the scenarios and participants' lives.

2. Grace in Action Challenge

Objective: Encourage participants to perform acts of grace and forgiveness in their daily lives.

Materials Needed:

- A "Grace Tracker" printable chart.
- Pens or markers.
- Stickers or small rewards for completed actions.

Instructions:

1. **Set Goals:** Each participant identifies specific ways to show grace and forgiveness (e.g., writing an encouraging note, apologizing to someone, or helping a neighbor in need).
2. **Track Actions:** Participants document their acts of grace on the chart throughout the week. Include space for reflections on each action's impact.
3. **Reflection:** At the end of the week, discuss how these actions impacted their relationships and spiritual growth. Share testimonies of challenges faced and lessons learned.
4. **Celebrate Progress:** Recognize participants' efforts with a small token of encouragement, reinforcing the value of living out grace and forgiveness.



3. Confidence in Obedience Tree Craft

Objective: Create a visual representation of how obedience to Christ's teachings builds trust and unity.

Materials Needed:

- Poster board or large paper.
- Colored paper for leaves.
- Markers, glue, and scissors.
- Decorative elements like glitter, stickers, or ribbon.

Instructions:

1. **Draw the Tree:** Create a tree with deep roots labeled with foundational principles like "Faith," "Love," and "Grace." Add a cross at the base to signify Christ's role as the foundation.
2. **Add Leaves:** Write acts of obedience and forgiveness (e.g., "Forgive someone," "Pray for unity") on leaves and attach them to the branches. Encourage participants to write their names or initials on completed leaves.
3. **Reflect on Growth:** Discuss how living out these principles strengthens relationships and glorifies God. Share specific examples of how these acts have impacted personal or communal relationships.
4. **Display:** Place the tree in a central location as a reminder of the commitment to obedience and unity.

Section 2: Family Discussion and Prayer

Family Discussion Guide

1. **Opening Question:** How does Paul's confidence in Philemon challenge us to trust and encourage others in their faith journey?
2. **Reflection:** Share examples of how grace and forgiveness have transformed relationships in your life. Reflect on how trust enhances reconciliation.
3. **Action Plan:** Identify ways the family can demonstrate obedience to Christ's teachings this week. Create a shared family "Grace Tracker" to monitor progress.
4. **Encouragement Activity:** Commit to writing notes of encouragement to family members or friends who need support. Include prayers or Scripture verses in each note.

Family Prayer

Dear Lord, thank You for the example of Paul's confidence in Philemon. Help us to trust and encourage one another to live out Your grace and forgiveness. May our obedience to Your Word bring unity and healing to our relationships, reflecting Your love to the world. Teach us to be faithful stewards of Your grace and to inspire trust and hope in those we meet. Amen.



Section 3: Additional Resources

Bible Study Tools

- *Bible Gateway*: Offers translations and commentary for deeper understanding.
- *Blue Letter Bible*: Provides tools for word studies and thematic research.
- *Got Questions?*: Answers complex theological questions.

Printable Activities

- *Role-Play Scenario Cards*: Cards featuring practical conflict resolution situations.
- *Grace Tracker Chart*: A printable tool for documenting acts of grace.
- *Obedience Tree Templates*: Designs for creating the craft activity.
- *Encouragement Note Templates*: Pre-designed cards for uplifting messages.

Recommended Books

- *The Peacemaker* by Ken Sande.
- *Total Forgiveness* by R.T. Kendall.
- *Boundaries* by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend.
- *Grace Walk* by Steve McVey.

Videos

- *"Confidence in Obedience"*: A teaching video exploring Paul's message to Philemon.
- *"Living Out Grace and Forgiveness"*: Practical examples of demonstrating Christ's love in relationships.
- *"Unity Through Obedience"*: Lessons on building trust and reconciliation.
- *"Acts of Grace in Action"*: Stories of transformation through