

Pastor Ron Case  
3/10/13

## **“Taking God’s View”**

*“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” (Matthew 9:36)*

### **True Test of Love**

**Philemon 7-10** – (7) “For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you. (8) Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, (9) yet for love’s sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— (10) I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment.”

### **Reframing a Relationship**

**Philemon 12-17** – (12) “I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. (13) I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, (14) but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. (15) For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, (16) no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. (17) So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me.”

**Key Point: Look at People through the Lens of the Lord**

### **In Reference to the Intercessor:**

#### **(1) Give Grace as You have received grace**

**Philemon 18-19** – (18) “If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. (19) I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it —to say nothing of your owing me even your own self.”

**(2) Bless the One who has blessed You**

**Philemon 20** – “Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.”

**Questions:**

**What impacted me the most in this message?**

**To whom can I apply this message? (Spouse, child, friend, enemy, etc.)**

**Like the Apostle Paul on the behalf of Onesimus, how can I be an intercessory peacemaker for others? (Matt. 5:9; 2 Cor. 5:18)**

**Have I dismissed anyone as unimportant whom God values greatly? (Acts 10:15, 34-35)**