

English Bible for the Deaf

Quotation marks

When someone uses the same words as another speaker, those quoted words are written between 'quotation marks'.

When that quoted speaker has used the words of another (2nd) speaker, those words are written between "2 quotation marks" and the words of a 3rd quoted speaker, between "'3 quotation marks'".

Difficult words

The difficult words in the Bible are marked with a small letter ^{a, b} or ^c and at the bottom of that page there is an explanation for those words, they are called footnotes. The difficult words in the footnotes are marked with an *asterisk, they will be explained in a word list.

The texts that we are placing on the website now, have a lot of repeated footnotes and some may be repeated on the same page, they will be removed later.

We can not explain all of the difficult words on each page, so here is a list of difficult words that we had to use a lot in the Bible and that we only explain on this page. They are marked with a •bullet.

Difficult words explained only once:

- Christ: the *Son of God who came to pay for our *sins. His name is Jesus.
- could: today you can, yesterday or tomorrow you could.
- got: today you get, yesterday you got.
- Israelites: the people of God in the *Old Testament.
- king: the *leader or *ruler of a *nation or *land. [see drawing]
- know: is when you are sure of something or when you have seen it.
- Lord: another name for God.
- saw: when I open my eyes, I see, yesterday I saw.
- son: the boy child of a mother and father.
- temple: the building or *house of God where people came to *worship Him.
- took: today I take something, yesterday I took it.
- would: today you will, yesterday or tomorrow you would.

The letter to PHILEMON

1

Paul and Timothy write a ^aletter to their friend Philemon

¹ Philemon, I am Paul and Timothy is here with me. We are ^bwriting this ^cletter to you. I am in ^djail because I work for Jesus •Christ. ² We also write this ^eletter to Apphia, she is like a sister to us and we write to our friend Archippus who also tells the people about •Christ and we write this letter to the group of ^fChristians who come to ^gpray and ^hworship in your home.

³ We ⁱpray that God, our Father and the •Lord Jesus Christ will be very good to you and that they will give you ^jpeace.

Paul thanks God when he thinks of Philemon

⁴ When I ^kpray and ask my God to help you, I always thank God, ⁵ because people tell me good things about you. You ^lbelieve in the •Lord Jesus and you love all the people of God. ⁶ I ^mpray that you will always tell other people

^a **letter:** a *message that a person *writes and sends to another person. [see *drawing]

^b **write:** is when you take a pen and put words in a book or on something.

^c **letter:** a *message that a person *writes and sends to another person. [see *drawing]

^d **jail:** a strong place where *guards keep bad people and *prisoners. [see *drawing]

^e **letter:** a *message that a person *writes and sends to another person. [see *drawing]

^f **Christian:** a person who *believes in Jesus •Christ and tells other people about Him.

^g **pray:** is to talk to God.

^h **worship:** is to *pray to God and *serve Him.

ⁱ **pray:** is to talk to God and ask Him for help.

^j **peace:** peace of God is what you feel when God takes away all your *sins and worries.

^k **pray:** is to talk to God and ask Him for help.

^l **believe:** is when you •know that Jesus is the •Christ who *forgave your *sins.

^m **pray:** is to talk to God and ask Him for help.

about •Christ. Talk to them so that they will understand every good thing that Christ did for us. ⁷ My friend, you made the people of God very happy and you made me happy, now I feel stronger to do my work.

Paul asks Philemon to help Onesimus

⁸ You and I ⁿbelieve in •Christ, we ^obelong to Him, that is why I can tell you to do something for me. ⁹ But I do not want to say you must do it, I am asking you: 'Please do it for me, because you love me.'

I am Paul and I am an old man. I am in ^pjail because I love Jesus •Christ and I work for Him. ¹⁰ So I am asking you to help my friend ^qOnesimus. I told him about Jesus when I was in ^rjail and he started to ^sbelieve in Jesus and he has become like my child, a child that was born from me. ¹¹ Before I ^tmet him, Onesimus could not help you. Now he can help you and he can help me.

¹² Onesimus is very ^uimportant to me, but I am sending him back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him here with me for the time that I am in ^vjail. I am in jail because I told the people the good news about Jesus. You are not here, you can not help me now, so I wanted Onesimus to help me here. ¹⁴ But I wanted to ask you first, I ^whope you will say 'yes.' I want you to help me because you ^xreally want to help, not because you feel you have to do it.

¹⁵ Why did God take Onesimus away from you for a short time? Maybe it

ⁿ **believe:** is when you know that Jesus is the •Christ who *forgave your *sins.

^o **belong:** is to be the people of God or part of them and to *serve Him.

^p **jail:** a strong place where *guards keep bad people and *prisoners. [see *drawing]

^q **Onesimus:** Onesimus was a *slave of Philemon, but he ran away from Philemon and he was in *jail with Paul, the name Onesimus *means 'a person who helps other people.'

^r **jail:** a strong place where *guards keep bad people and *prisoners. [see *drawing]

^s **believe:** is when you •know that Jesus is the •Christ who *forgives your *sins.

^t **met:** is when you have seen a person and have talked to him.

^u **important:** something that is better and *greater, that you love more than all the other.

^v **jail:** a strong place where *guards keep bad people and *prisoners. [see *drawing]

^w **hope:** is when you wish that something good will happen.

^x **really:** is *true, not a *lie.

was that you can have him back ^yforever. ¹⁶ You get him back again, but now he is not only your ^zslave, he is like your brother. I love Onesimus very much, but you will now love him more than I do. You will love him because he is your slave and also your brother. He is your brother because he is also a child of the •Lord.

¹⁷ I am your friend who works with you for the •Lord. If I come to you, you will say 'welcome' to me and you will be happy to meet me. Please do the same to Onesimus, welcome him in the same way. ¹⁸ If Onesimus has done anything wrong to you, I will make it right. If there is money that he must pay you, I will pay that money to you. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am ^awriting these words myself, with my hand. I will pay the money back to you. But remember that you must also be thankful to me. Why? Because it was me who told you about •Christ. ²⁰ So, my friend, I ^breally want you to help me, because we are ^cChristians. Please do this for me so that I can feel happy and stronger to do my work.

²¹ I write this ^dletter to you because I •know that you will do what I ask you to do. I am sure that you will do ^eeven more than this.

The end of the ^fletter

²² I want to ask you one more thing. I •know that all of you are ^gpraying that they will let me go out of ^hjail. When I come out of jail, I will come and ⁱvisit you again. I want to sleep in your house, please ^jprepare a room where I can

^y **forever:** it will go on and on, it will never stop.

^z **slave:** someone who ^{*}belongs to another person and must work for him.

^a **write:** is when you take a pen and put words in a book or on something.

^b **really:** is ^{*}true, not a ^{*}lie.

^c **Christian:** a person who ^{*}believes in Jesus •Christ and tells other people about Him.

^d **letter:** a ^{*}message that a person ^{*}writes and sends to another person. [see ^{*}drawing]

^e **even:** also.

^f **letter:** a ^{*}message that a person ^{*}writes and sends to another person. [see ^{*}drawing]

^g **pray:** is to talk to God and ask Him for help.

^h **jail:** a strong place where ^{*}guards keep bad people and ^{*}prisoners. [see ^{*}drawing]

ⁱ **visit:** is when you go to your friend or someone and talk to him.

^j **prepare:** is to get something ready before the time.

stay.

²³ Our friend Epaphras is also here in ^kjail with me because he told people about Jesus •Christ. Epaphras sends ^lgreetings to you. ²⁴ Our other friends Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, who all work with me, also send ^mgreetings to you.

²⁵ I ⁿpray that the •Lord Jesus •Christ will be very good to you and give his ^ograce to all of you.

^k **jail:** a strong place where *guards keep bad people and *prisoners. [see *drawing]

^l **greeting:** is when you say hello or goodbye to someone.

^m **greeting:** is when you say hello or goodbye to someone.

ⁿ **pray:** is to talk to God and ask Him for help.

^o **grace:** the love of God for people who can not help themselves.