

Studies in

2 Corinthians



Lesson XIII

Text: 2 Corinthians 7:8-16 (NKJV)

8 For even if I made you sorry with my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it. For I perceive that the same epistle made you sorry, though only for a while. **9** Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. **10** For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. **11** For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What diligence it produced in you, what clearing of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what vehement desire, what zeal, what vindication! In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter. **12** Therefore, although I wrote to you, I did not do it for the sake of him who had done the wrong, nor for the sake of him who suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear to you.

13 Therefore we have been comforted in your comfort. And we rejoiced exceedingly more for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all. **14** For if in anything I have boasted to him about you, I am not ashamed. But as we spoke all things to you in truth, even so our boasting to Titus was found true. **15** And his affections are greater for you as he remembers the obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling you received him. **16** Therefore I rejoice that I have confidence in you in everything.

Discussion Questions

1. Confronting other people can be difficult, especially when feelings are involved. Was it difficult for Paul to address the moral deficiencies of the Corinthian congregation? (vs. 8) Why did he go through with it? (vs. 9)

2. Guilt is a God-given mechanism of the soul. When we do wrong, ideally we feel guilty. But guilt is not enough. Our regret (“sorrow,” vs. 9) must lead us to r_____.

3. Identify someone in the Bible who truly repented and someone who felt guilty, but never changed his ways. What is the process of true repentance? What is at stake if we don’t repent? (vs. 10)

4. What kind of fruit does repentance produce? (vs. 11)

5. Do Christians ever need to repent? (vs. 12)

6. If you had to fill the job of Titus, what qualifications would you look for in a candidate? (vv. 13-16)