

Good Sorrow Leads to Joyful Surrender
II Corinthians 7:5-16

*"Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but
worldly sorrow brings death."
--II Corinthians 7:10*

- I. God comforts us through His people - 7:5-7
 - A. Paul's need for God's comfort: "No rest" 7:5
 - B. Comfort often arrives in a human package - 7:6-7
 - C. The result of God's comfort: Greater joy - 7:7c
 - D. God's comfort written about in 2 Cor. 1:3-7 in action!

- II. The reconciling power of tough love - 7:8
 - A. True love in a relationship means a willingness to deal with the hard stuff
 - B. Pain is a necessary part of growth and change in our relationships with God and others.
-- Proverbs 27:6 & Psalm 141:5
 - C. Care-fronting is painful and therefore risky.

- III. Two different responses to pain- 7:9-13
 - A. Paul's letter was a purposeful wounding- meant to bring healing vs. harm: "I am happy, not because you were made sorry."
 - B. Healing as a result of "Godly Sorrow" vs. Harm as a result of "Worldly Sorrow"

Results of Godly Sorrow

Pain is God-centered (7:9)

Repentance/ transformation (7:10)

Pain is temporary, timely (7:8)

No ill effects carried on (7:8)

Restores the soul/ sanctifying (7:10)

Freedom from past (7:10)

Results of Worldly Sorrow

Pain is self-centered

Regret/ Self-defeating, condemnation

Pain lasts, becomes a prison

Bitterness, regret, resistance to God

Death (in me, in my relationships)

Traps me in the past, destructive

- C. Pain forms a “T” in the road of life- two options (the choice is ours)
 - D. The markers of godly sorrow - 7:11
 - E. A specific person and circumstance: “the injured party”- 7:12-13
- IV. God's perspective of people in challenging relationships - 7:13-16
- A. Our perspective often predicts the outcome
 - 2 Cor. 5:16-17
 - B. The positive impact of a positive perspective - 7:13
 - C. Believing and speaking the best about others - 7:14
 - Proverbs 18:21 & 12:18
 - Philippians 4:8
 - D. Their warm reception reveals a heart for God - 7:15
 - E. “I have complete confidence in you” - 7:16
 - 2 Cor. 7:4
 - Philippians 1:3-6