

# Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

## 2 Corinthians 7

### Lesson 9

This chapter reflects Paul's response to the news he received from Titus regarding the Corinthian's reception and response to his letter. As you read of these results, may you be challenged in both your efforts to lovingly correct others and receiving correction yourself.

#### DAY ONE: Read 2 Corinthians 7

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheets and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
  - a. The seventh chapter of 2 Corinthians has been divided into two paragraph divisions. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

#### Verses 1-12

#### Verses 13-16

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet. Now record a title for the seventh chapter of 2 Corinthians.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

*God, sorry/sorrow, and comfort/consolation.*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in 2 Corinthians 7. Remember, as you mark the key words to mark any personal pronouns that refer to them. You do not need to mark every word that refers to them - only those that you feel are significant.

Challenge: Choose, mark and make a list of another key word

3. Choose one of the key words above and make a list of what the text reveals about it.

4. The term of conclusion *therefore* appears four times in 2 Corinthians 7. Choose one of them and record what the conclusion was based upon.

**DAY TWO: Read 2 Corinthians 7:1-4**

1. 2 Corinthians 7:1 is a conclusion based on the promises of the last three verses of chapter 6. What are these promises?

a. According to 2 Corinthians 6:17 and 2 Corinthians 7:1, what is God asking of us?

1.) What do you think God expects from us when He calls us to *come out*?

2. In Paul's longing for a relationship with the believers in Corinth, what did he ask them to do in 2 Corinthians 7:2?

a. Describe in your own words what Paul was asking them to do.

b. In defending himself, what did Paul say he had not done?

3. In 2 Corinthians 7:3, Paul assured them that he was not saying these things to *condemn* them. Why do you think godly correction is often mistakenly received as *condemning*?
  
4. In verse 4, Paul used the word *great* two times. What did he say?
  - a. Not only did Paul *speak boldly to* the Corinthians, but he also *boasted about* them. What can we learn from this example about being sure that those we correct know we are for them?
  
5. We will discover as we continue to study this chapter why Paul, in the midst of much criticism, was *filled with comfort* and *exceedingly joyful in all his tribulation*. What affect does good news have on your ability to endure criticism and hard times?
  - a. What does 1 Thessalonians 3:7-9 say about this?

### **DAY THREE: Read 2 Corinthians 7:5-7**

1. We have previously mentioned how Paul left Ephesus and journeyed to Troas in search of Titus (2 Corinthians 2:12). Not finding him there, he crossed over to Macedonia. Now he explains that even his arrival in Macedonia did not give him the rest he sought. Using 2 Corinthians 7:5, describe Paul's unrest.
  - a. For you personally, what do you dread most – *outside conflicts* or *inside fears*?
    - 1.) Why?
  
2. Paul began the next verse with the wonderful word *Nevertheless*. What did Paul say about God?
  - a. What does the psalmist instruct the *downcast* to do in Psalm 42:5?

3. Who did God use to bring *comfort* to Paul? verse 6
  - a. What are some other means God uses to *comfort*?
  
  - b. What news did Titus bring to Paul about the believers in Corinth? verse 7
  
4. Paul received encouraging news from Titus. The Corinthians had received his corrections as he had hoped. How might this encourage Paul to now make another visit to Corinth?

**DAY FOUR: Read 2 Corinthians 7:8-12**

1. Paul begins this section expressing that he was originally *sorry* that he wrote to them a letter of correction, but he no longer *regretted* sending the letter. According to verse 9, what was the affect of the letter?
  - a. Using verses 8 and 9, describe their *sorrow*.
  
  - b. Why should *sorrow that leads to repentance* be *only for a while*? In other words, why should repentance enable a person to move on from their sorrow?
  
  - c. Define *repentance*.
  
2. What is the difference between *godly sorrow* and *sorrow of the world*? verse 10  
  
Challenge: Define the difference using your own words.
  - a. In Acts 26:20 Paul says *they should do works befitting of repentance*. What are some signs of reacting with true repentance (*godly sorrow*)?
  
3. What did *godly sorrow* produce in the believers in Corinth? verse 11

4. In what ways do the following verses apply to 2 Corinthians 7:11?
  - a. Proverbs 9:8
  - b. Proverbs 12:15
  - c. Proverbs 12:18
  
5. In concluding this section, Paul tells us why he wrote the letter. What did he say? verse 12
  - a. This is a re-emphasis of 2 Corinthians 2:4. What did Paul say in this verse?
  
  - b. Paul corrected them because he cared for them. How does this encourage you to correct a believer who is in sin, even in fear of their rejection of you?

**DAY FIVE: Read 2 Corinthians 7:13-16**

1. *Therefore we have been comforted in your comfort* (2 Corinthians 7:13). Paul rejoiced to hear that his letter had its intended effect. What was the other reason for Paul's *rejoicing*?
  - a. What was *Titus' joy* based upon?
  
2. According to Romans 15:32, why did Paul want to visit the believers in Rome?
  - a. In what ways do believers *refresh* one another?
  
3. Even though Paul sent a letter of rebuke, he found much about the Corinthian believers to *boast* about. Titus found Paul's *boasting* to be true. What did Titus tell Paul about them? verse 15
  
4. Record Paul's conclusion (verse 16) about these believers in your own words.

