

RISKING ALL FOR LOVE**Regrets, Repentance, and Rejoicing 2 Corinthians 7:2–16**

*“Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret,
but worldly sorrow brings death.” 2 Corinthians 7:10*

Day 1: Read 2 Corinthians 7:2–4.

1. List the reasons Paul gives why the appeal to “make room for us in your hearts” (vs. 2) is a reasonable one.
2. How does Paul express his concern for the Corinthians, and what do you think he means by “you have such a place in our hearts that we would live or die with you”? (vs. 3)
3. Even in the midst of Paul’s trying circumstances, what does he say brings him great joy? (vs. 4)
4. What are some characteristics of your own church that cause you to rejoice?

Day 2: Read 2 Corinthians 7:5–7.

5. Paul resumes the story of his search for Titus which has led him from Troas to Macedonia. (See 2 Cor. 2:12–13) What is Paul’s state of mind as he reaches Macedonia? (vss. 5–6)
6. What is the source of Paul’s comfort during his emotional turmoil? (vss. 6a; 1:4–7)
7. How does God bring abundant encouragement to Paul? (vss. 6b–7)

Day 3: Read 2 Corinthians 7:8–13a.

8. Paul had written a letter to the church which had swung the allegiance of the church away from Paul. Explain why he regrets sending it, but on the other hand doesn’t regret sending it. (vss. 8–9)

9. Can you describe a situation when you, like the Corinthians, received a letter or a call from someone who pointed out a sin in your life? How did you respond?

10. What are the different effects produced by “godly sorrow” and “worldly sorrow”?

Day 4: Read 2 Corinthians 7:8–13a.

11. How is “godly sorrow” (vs. 11) which leads to repentance evidenced in the lives of the Corinthians? Can you relate a particular instance when “godly sorrow” caused repentance in your life?

12. In writing the sorrowful letter to the Corinthian church what hopeful outcome did Paul envision? (vs. 12)

13. Meditate on Isaiah 49:8–13, and marvel at this beautiful picture that patterns godly repentance. Write down some of your reflections.

Day 5: Read 2 Corinthians 7:1–16.

14. Paul is the only New Testament author to use the phrase from the Greek meaning; “fear and trembling” (vs. 15). Why do you think he uses it here? (Phil. 2:12, 13; Eph. 6:5; 1 Cor. 2:3–5)

15. What risk did Paul take in his communication to Titus about the Corinthians, and how did that turn out? (vs. 14) What is the basis of our confidence in other believers? (2 Cor. 1:18–22; 3:2–3, 18; 13:5)

16. What do we learn of God in Paul’s relationship with the Corinthians? Who sent Titus? Who sent godly grief? Who has us in his heart?

17. How do you see God at work in the relationships in your life?