

## **LESSON 13: 2 CORINTHIANS 7:1-9:14**

### **Paul's Joy at the Church's Repentance**

1. Paul's appeal to the Corinthians in v. 2 follows from what he wrote a few verses earlier (see 6:11-12). What does he mean when he declares that "we have wronged ... corrupted ... exploited no one"?
2. What does 7:3 teach about the nature of Christian fellowship? Is this related to what Jesus was talking about in John 13:34-35, or to what John was talking about 1 John 3:16? How is all this related to God's purposes for Faith Presbyterian Church?
3. Why is Paul so confident, proud, and encouraged about the Corinthians (v. 4)? Explain the situation about which he is speaking in verses 4-7? What had made him so upset, and what brought him such great relief?
4. Take note of the language Paul uses in verses 6-7, and compare it with 1:3-7. From whom does Paul find comfort, ultimately? Through whom in this situation? Where do you find comfort? Is there a Titus in your life?
5. Paul compares godly sorrow and worldly sorrow in verses 8-11. Paul did regret writing his letter at first, but now he does not regret it. In fact, he is happy. Why? What are the positive indications and constructive results of godly sorrow? How does this differ from worldly sorrow? Do you agree? What is the value of repentance in Christian life?
6. In verses 12-16, Paul speaks of his joy in Titus' report of his own reception by the Corinthians, and ties it to his not being disappointed in what he'd "boasted" to Titus concerning them. What's Paul's point in these verses? What do you learn about Titus? About the Corinthians?

## The Collection

1. How do you feel about people who raise money for Christian causes? What methods offend you? Do such methods cause you to question the validity of the cause and the one seeking the money?
2. If the instructions in 1 Corinthians 16:1-4 had been followed, would there have been a problem? Why had they not followed those instructions?
3. Is there a connection between the grace which God has bestowed on the churches in 8:1, and their gift in verses 2-5?
4. What incentive is the basis of Paul's solicitation in verse 7? What are the example and the incentive in verse 9? Why is Jesus Christ the supreme example of sacrificial giving?
5. What is the primary goal that governs Paul's appeal for gifts in verses 10-15?
6. What does the principle of equality suggest about our bond with believers around the world?
7. What more do you learn about Titus? What kind of a team has Paul put together. Should we be looking for such a team?
8. Read 9:1-5. Is this any way to solicit money?
9. What is suggested about the personal benefits of giving money in 9:6-11? Some people suggest today that if you give, you will receive as much or more in return. How does this fit in with what Paul has to say?
10. In addition to meeting their material needs, what other benefits are produced in those who receive (9:12-14)?