

# 2 CORINTHIANS

## A Verse-by-Verse Study



## 2 Corinthians 6: 17-18 (NASB)

*Therefore, come out from their midst and  
be separate,” says the Lord.*

*“And do not touch what is unclean;*

*And I will welcome you.*

*And I will be a father to you,*

*And you shall be sons and daughters to  
Me,”*

*Says the Lord Almighty.*

# Separate

Greek: aphorizo (af-or-id'-zo)

- To set a boundary
- To build a fence
- To divide or make a visible division

# Colossians

## 3: 2-3

25 O LORD, you are city God,  
the fortified city a ruin,  
the fortress palace is a heap  
of ruins;  
therefore strong peoples will  
tremble,  
cities of ruthless nations will  
flee;  
for you have been a stronghold to the  
needy in his distress,  
from the breath of the storm and a  
storm against a wall,  
you subdue the noise of a  
war,  
so the song of the ruthless is  
down.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts  
will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged  
wine,  
wine well refined,  
the covering that is cast over all  
people.  
He will swallow up death forever,  
and the LORD God will wipe away  
tears  
from all faces,  
and the reproach of his people he  
will take away from all the earth.  
For the LORD has spoken.

A gift in secret deeds  
and a concealed brother  
righteousness  
One who wanders from the  
righteousness  
will rest in the assembly of  
the righteous  
Whoever loves wine and oil  
will be a traitor for the  
poor  
The wicked is a traitor for the  
poor  
better to live in a desert  
than in a quarrelsome city  
and all are

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## Colossians 3: 2-3 (NASB)

*Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.*

Question?

Why do you  
think God wants  
us to be in the  
world, but not  
yoked with the  
world?

# 1 John

## 2: 15-16



## 1 John 2: 15-16 (NASB)

*Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.*



## James 4: 4 (NASB)

*You adulteresses, do you not know that  
friendship with the world is hostility  
toward God? Therefore whoever wants to  
be a friend of the world makes himself  
an enemy of God.*

# 1 Corinthians

## 5: 9-11



# 1 Corinthians 5: 9 (ESV)

*I wrote to you in my letter not to  
associate with sexually immoral people—*

# 1 Corinthians 5: 10 (ESV)

*not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world.*

**The Church must be able to  
associate with the world without  
partnering with the world!**

**Jesus is the perfect example!**

# Hebrews

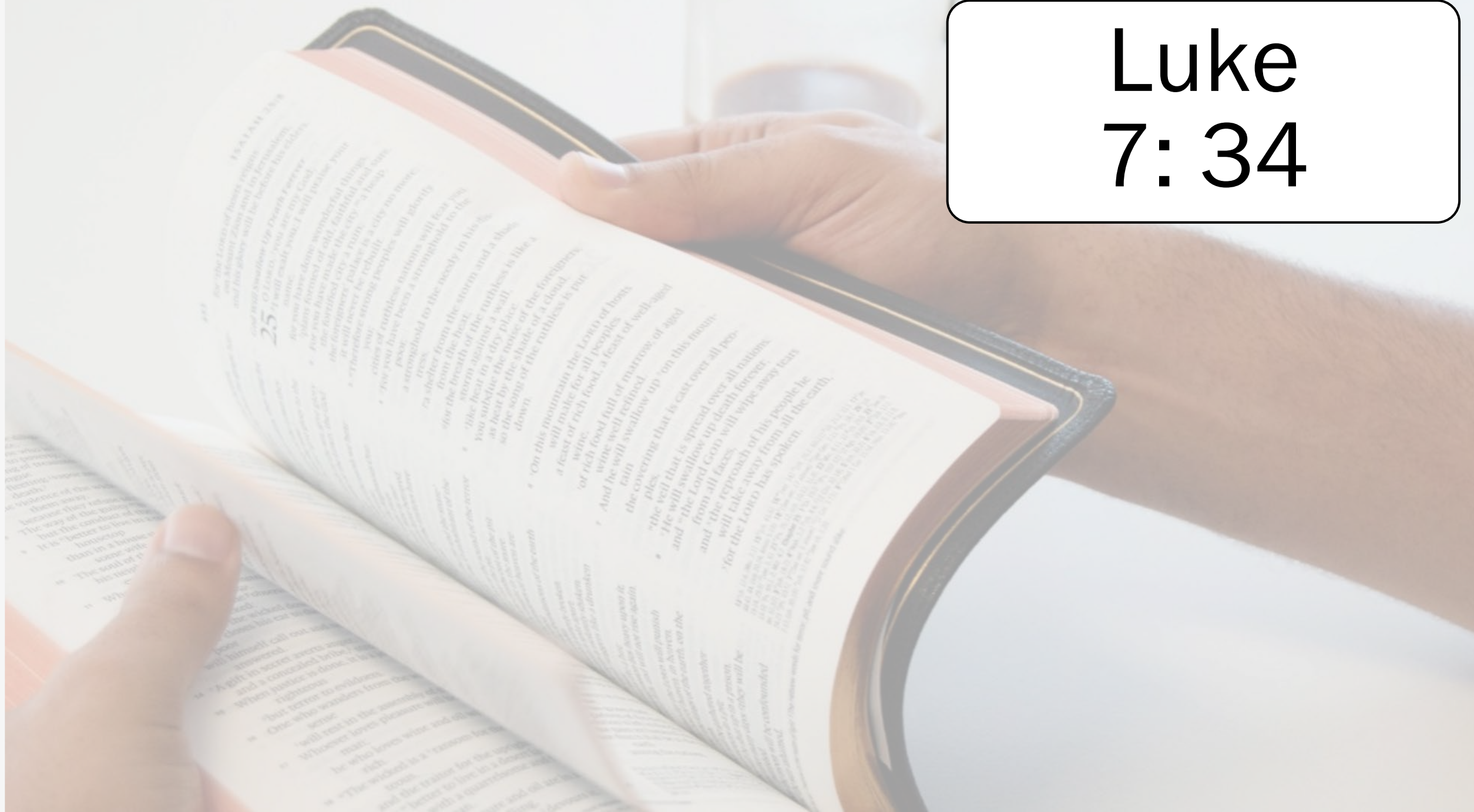
## 7: 26



## Hebrews 7: 26 (NASB)

*For it was fitting for us to have such  
a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled,  
separated from sinners, and exalted  
above the heavens;*

# Luke 7: 34



## Luke 7: 34 (NASB)

*The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Behold, a gluttonous man and a heavy drinker, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'*

## 1 Corinthians 5: 11 (ESV)

*But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one.*

Question?

Why do you think God tells us that it is OK to associate with people in the world who are living sinful lifestyles, but it is not OK to associate with people in the Church who are living sinful lifestyles?

# Matthew

## 18: 15-17



## Matthew 18: 15-17 (NIV)

*“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.”*

## Matthew 18: 15-17 (NIV)

*But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'*

# Matthew 18: 15-17 (NIV)

*If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church;*

## Matthew 18: 15-17 (NIV)

*and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.*

## 2 Corinthians 6: 17-18 (NASB)

*Therefore, come out from their midst and  
be separate,” says the Lord.*

*“And do not touch what is unclean;*

*And I will welcome you.*


*And I will be a father to you,*

*And you shall be sons and daughters to  
Me,”*



*Says the Lord Almighty.*

Question?

What point is  
Paul making  
when he tells us  
to not touch  
what is  
unclean?



I believe Paul is referring to  
staying away from the sinful,  
fleshly, sinful activities and  
desires of the world around us!



# 1 John

## 2: 15-17



## 1 John 2: 15-17 (NASB)

*Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.*

## 1 John 2: 15-17 (NASB)

*The world is passing away and also its  
lusts; but **the one who does the will of  
God** continues to live forever.*

## 2 Corinthians 6: 17-18 (NASB)

*Therefore, come out from their midst and  
be separate,” says the Lord.*

*“And do not touch what is unclean;  
And I will welcome you.*

*And I will be a father to you,  
And you shall be sons and daughters to  
Me,”*

*Says the Lord Almighty.*

Question?

What is the  
significance of  
being a son or  
daughter of  
God?

# Galatians

## 4: 7



## Galatians 4: 1-7 (NASB)

*Now I say, as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave, although he is owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by the father.*

## Galatians 4: 1-7 (NASB)

*So we too, when we were children, were held in bondage under the elementary principles of the world.*

## Galatians 4: 1-7 (NASB)

*But when the fullness of the time came,  
God sent His Son, born of a woman,  
born under the Law, so that He might  
redeem those who were under the Law,  
that we might receive the adoption  
as sons and daughters.*

## Galatians 4: 1-7 (NASB)

*Because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying out, “Abba! Father!” Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.*

# Romans

## 8: 14-17



## Romans 8: 14-17 (NASB)

*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons and daughters of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons and daughters by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!”*

## Romans 8: 14-17 (NASB)

*The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*

# Promises of being a Child of God

## 1. Security

## Romans 8: 14-17 (NASB)

*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons and daughters of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery **leading to fear** again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons and daughters by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!”*

# Promises of being a Child of God

1. Security
2. Authority

## Romans 8: 14-17 (NASB)

*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons and daughters of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons and daughters by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!”*

# Promises of being a Child of God

1. Security
2. Authority
3. Intimacy

## Romans 8: 14-17 (NASB)

*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons and daughters of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons and daughters by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!”*

# Promises of being a Child of God

1. Security
2. Authority
3. Intimacy
4. Confidence

## Romans 8: 14-17 (NASB)

*The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit  
that we are children of God, and if  
children, heirs also, heirs of God and  
fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we  
suffer with Him so that we may also be  
glorified with Him.*

# 2 Corinthians

## 1: 20-22



## 2 Corinthians 1: 20-22 (NLT)

*For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!" And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for his glory. It is God who enables us, along with you, to stand firm for Christ. He has commissioned us,*

## 2 Corinthians 1: 20-22 (NLT)

*and he has identified us as his own by placing the Holy Spirit in our hearts as the first installment that guarantees everything he has promised us.*

# Promises of being a Child of God

1. Security
2. Authority
3. Intimacy
4. Confidence
5. Eternal Inheritance

## Romans 8: 14-17 (NASB)

*The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*

## 2 Corinthians 7: 1a (NASB)

*Therefore, having these  
promises, beloved,*

Question?

What should  
knowing these  
promises  
motivate us to  
do?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 1 (NASB)

*Therefore, having these  
promises, beloved, let's cleanse  
ourselves from all defilement of flesh and  
spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of  
God.*

Question?

What does Paul  
mean when he  
tells us to  
*“cleanse  
ourselves from all  
defilement of  
flesh”*?

Question?

What else  
motivates us to  
do this?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 1 (NASB)

*Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let's cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*

## 2 Corinthians 7: 2 (NASB)

*Make room for us in your hearts; we have wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we have taken advantage of no one.*

Question?

Do you  
remember the  
tone of Paul's  
first letter to the  
Church in  
Corinth?

Question?

How difficult is it  
to confront sin in  
the Church?

# Acts 18: 1, 9-11



# Acts 18: 1 (NLT)

*Then Paul left Athens and went to Corinth.*

## Acts 18: 9-11 (NLT)

*One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision and told him, “Don’t be afraid! Speak out! Don’t be silent! For I am with you, and no one will attack and harm you, for many people in this city belong to me.” So Paul stayed there for the next year and a half, teaching the word of God.*

## 2 Corinthians 7: 2 (NASB)

*Make room for us in your hearts; we have wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we have taken advantage of no one.*

## 2 Corinthians 7: 3 (NASB)

*I do not speak to condemn you, for I have said before that you are in our hearts, to die together and to live together.*

The phrase “to die together and to live together” was used to demonstrate a lifelong devotion toward another person, much like today we say “till death do us part” during a wedding.

Question?

How do you think  
the Church in  
Corinth  
responded to  
Paul's first letter  
from the following  
statements?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 4 (NASB)

*My confidence in you is great;  
my boasting in your behalf is great. I am  
filled with comfort; I am overflowing  
with joy in all our affliction.*

## 2 Corinthians 7: 4 (NASB)

*My confidence in you is great;  
my boasting in your behalf is great. I am  
filled with comfort; I am overflowing  
with joy in all our affliction.*

Question?

What filled Paul  
with comfort?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 4 (NASB)

*My confidence in you is great;  
my boasting in your behalf is great. I am  
filled with comfort; I am overflowing  
with joy in all our affliction.*

# Affliction

Greek: thlipsis (thlip'-sis)

- Pressure
- Anguish
- Trouble
- Affliction

Question?

What is causing  
Paul to be full of  
joy during times  
of trouble?

# Psalm 43: 5

25 O Lord, you are my God,  
and you have done wonderful things,  
the fortress of the city is a ruin,  
it will never be rebuilt,  
therefore strong peoples will glory  
in you,  
for you have been a stronghold to the  
needy in his distress,  
from the breath of the storm and a strong  
storm against a wall,  
you subdue the noise of a strong  
down.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts  
will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged  
wine,  
And he will swallow up  
the covering that is cast over all  
peoples.

He will swallow up death forever,  
and the Lord God will wipe away tears  
from all faces,  
and the reproach of his people he  
will take away from all the earth.  
For the Lord has spoken.

## Psalm 43: 5 (NLT)

*Why am I discouraged?  
Why is my heart so sad?  
I will put my hope in God!  
I will praise him again—  
my Savior and my God!*



## Jeremiah 15: 16 (NLT)

*When I discovered your words, I  
devoured them.*

*They are my joy and my heart's  
delight,*

*for I bear your name,*

*O Lord God of Heaven's Armies.*



What is Paul  
describing in the next  
verse?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 5 (NASB)

*For even when we came into Macedonia  
our flesh had no rest, but we  
were afflicted on every side: **conflicts on  
the outside, fears inside.***

## 2 Corinthians 7: 6a (NASB)

*But God, who comforts the discouraged,*



How did God comfort  
Paul?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 6b-7 (NASB)

*comforted us **by the arrival of Titus**; and  
not only by his arrival, but also by the  
comfort with which he was comforted  
among you, as he reported to us your  
longing, your mourning, your zeal for me;  
so that I rejoiced even more.*



Is there someone in  
your life that comforts  
you when you see  
them?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 6b-7 (NASB)

*comforted us by the arrival of Titus; and not only by his arrival, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted among you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.*



How else did God  
comfort Paul?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 6b-7 (NASB)

*comforted us by the arrival of Titus; and not only by his arrival, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted among you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.*



How has God  
comforted you?



How can we bring  
comfort to each  
other?



What was Paul so distressed about?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 8 (NASB)

*For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it—for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while—*

# Regret

Greek: metam-el-lom-ai

- To be filled with care afterwards
- To have afterthoughts or second thoughts which leads to doubt and constant, tormenting questioning of your decision in your mind



Why does Paul not  
regret his letter?



Why does Paul regret  
his letter?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 8 (NASB)

*For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it—for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while—*



Why did Paul's letter  
bring sorrow to those  
in the Church in  
Corinth?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 9 (NASB)

*I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything*



Why is Paul rejoicing?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 9 (NASB)

*I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.*



Why does God want  
them to be sorrowful?

# Matthew 5:4

25 O Luck, you are city God,  
and you have done wonderful things,  
the fortress city a ruin,  
it will never be rebuilt.

26 Therefore strong peoples will not  
dwell there,  
nor will the city be inhabited.

27 For you have been a stronghold to the  
needy,  
a shelter from the storm and a shade  
from the heat.

28 You subdue the noise of the foe,  
as the song of the ruthless is like a  
down.

29 On this mountain the Lord of hosts  
will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged  
wine.

30 And he will swallow up the  
covering that is cast over all peo-  
ple,  
the veil that is spread over all na-  
tions.

31 He will swallow up death forever,  
and the Lord God will wipe away  
tears  
from all faces.

32 And the reproach of his people he  
will take away from all the earth,  
for the Lord has spoken.

## Matthew 5: 4 (NASB)

*“Blessed are those who mourn, for they  
will be comforted.”*

## 2 Corinthians 7: 10 (NASB)

*For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.*



What is Godly  
Sorrow?



What does Godly  
sorrow lead to?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 10 (NASB)

*For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.*



Why does Godly  
sorrow lead to  
salvation?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 10 (NASB)

*For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.*



What is worldly  
sorrow?

# Matthew 27: 3-4



## Matthew 27: 3-4 (NLT)

*When Judas, who had betrayed him, realized that Jesus had been condemned to die, **he was filled with remorse**. So he took the thirty pieces of silver back to the leading priests and the elders.*

## Matthew 27: 3-4 (NLT)

*“I have sinned,” he declared, “for I have betrayed an innocent man.” “What do we care?” they retorted. “That’s your problem.”*



What does worldly  
sorrow lead to?

## 2 Corinthians 7: 10 (NASB)

*For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.*



Why does worldly  
sorrow produce  
death?

Worldly sorrow is temporary. It is often a selfish reaction to bad behavior that often arises more out of fear or embarrassment after being caught than a true awareness of sin. This worldly sorrow does not lead to repentance, so it typically results in a person returning right back into sin.