

Paul's Heart Revealed
Lesson #6
2 Corinthians 6:14-7:16

Paul had opened his heart to the Corinthians and said he had endured great suffering to bring to them the gospel. In return he asked them to return his affection by opening their hearts to him.

Right Living - 2 Corinthians 6:14 - 7:1

1. False teachers were causing confusion in the church at Corinth so Paul warned them, "*Do not be yoked together with unbelievers.*" (2 Corinthians 6:14a) What two questions did Paul ask? (2 Corinthians 6:14b, c)
 - Since these were rhetorical questions to which they should have known the correct answers, what do you think was Paul's answer?

2. Using very strong language Paul continued with, "*What harmony is there between Christ and Belial?*" (2 Corinthians 6:15a) According to the NIV Study Bible text notes for Deuteronomy 13:13 (page 262), "*Belial*" in Hebrew was used as a name for Satan, the personification of wickedness and lawlessness. What were his next incompatible pairs? (2 Corinthians 6:15-16a)
 - Why are these incompatible? (2 Corinthians 6:16b, c)

3. Using quotes from the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah, to which command of the Lord did Paul refer to? (2 Corinthians 6:17)

4. What was God's promise in this command? (1 Corinthians 6:18)

- What title for God was used in this promise?
 - What does that title say about God?
5. What was Paul saying to the Corinthians with these rhetorical questions? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

Joy and Sorrow – 2 Corinthians 7:2-16

6. Paul made another appeal to the Corinthians to *"make room in your hearts."* In his defense, what did he say that he had not done? (2 Corinthians 7:2)
7. And, he said that he did *"not say this to condemn you."* What words of encouragement did he add? (2 Corinthians 7:3, 4)
8. What was it like for Paul when he arrived in Macedonia? (2 Corinthians 7:5)
9. In spite of these great hardships God brought Paul comfort. What changed Paul's sorrow into joy? (2 Corinthians 7:6, 7)

10. What did Paul want the Corinthians to know about his "sorrowful letter?" (2 Corinthians 7:8)
 - Why?
11. How did Paul contrast godly sorrow with worldly sorrow? (2 Corinthians 7:10)
12. Make a list of things Paul said this godly sorrow had produced in the Corinthians. (2 Corinthians 7:11)
13. What final result did Paul hope would come from this "sorrowful letter?" (2 Corinthians 7:12)
14. "By all this we are encouraged." In addition to Paul's encouragement, why was Titus so happy? (2 Corinthians 7:13)
15. Paul said he had boasted to Titus about them, and they had not disappointed him; everything he had told Titus about them was true. What were Titus' feelings about them? (2 Corinthians 7:15)
16. Why did Paul say he was so glad? (2 Corinthians 7:16)

Think about it!

Has there ever been a time in your life when the Lord or another believer confronted and challenged you about something that was displeasing to the Lord?

If yes, describe how you felt at the time and how you responded.

Is this something that could help others in your small group? If so, pray about whether the Lord would have you share this.