# Paul's Joy - 2 Corinthians 7:2-16

Topics: Confidence, Conflict, Devotion, Encouragement, Joy, Obedience, Repentance, Salvation, Sorrow

### **Open It**

- 1. When has a friend ever disappointed you?
- \* 2. What is it like to have a loyal and faithful friend?
  - 3. When was a time you had to confront a friend?

### **Explore It**

- 4. Why did Paul not condemn the Corinthians? (7:2-3)
- 5. Why did Paul have to defend himself again to the Corinthians? (7:2-4)
- \* 6. Why did Paul have such great confidence in the Corinthian Christians? (7:4)
  - 7. How could Paul be joyful in such difficult circumstances? (7:4)
  - 8. What was Paul's experience in Macedonia? (7:5)
  - 9. What was the nature of the trouble Paul was facing? (7:5)
- \* 10. How did God comfort Paul? (7:6-7)
  - 11. What was the cause of the sorrow felt by the Corinthians? (7:8)
  - 12. Why did Paul change his feelings about sending his "tearful letter"? (7:8-9)
  - 13. What qualities were produced by the Corinthians' godly sorrow? (7:11)
  - 14. How did the Corinthians prove themselves to be innocent? (7:11)
  - 15. For what reason did Paul write this letter to the church at Corinth? (7:12)
- \* 16. What did Titus do to encourage Paul? (7:13-16)
  - 17. Why did Paul have confidence in the Corinthian Christians? (7:16)

#### Get It

- \* 18. What can we learn from the relationship between Paul and Titus?
  - 19. What could your church learn from the relationship between Titus and the Corinthian church?
  - 20. What relationship is there between adversity and spiritual growth?
- \* 21. When have you ever been confronted by a friend regarding a spiritual matter?
  - 22. How should we respond when someone points out a wrong in our lives?
  - 23. How do Paul's warnings and encouraging words in this passage motivate you to behave in a godly manner?
  - 24. What can we learn from this passage about dealing with Christians who have fallen away from the faith?
  - 25. What should we do when a Christian friend turns away from Christ?
  - 26. Why is it not enough just to feel sorry for your sins?

# **Apply It**

- 27. What do you need to do this week to turn sorrow for sin into godly living?
- \* 28. What specific step can you take this week to build up another believer who is discouraged?