

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for December 12, 2010**

**“Comfort and Joy for a Caring Heart”**  
**2 Corinthians 7:13-16**

What are the basic components of Paul’s first admonishment to the repentant within the Church of Corinth in 2 Corinthians 7:2-16?

The first component is Paul’s command to the repentant within Corinth to make room for him and his associates in their hearts (2 Corinthians 7:2-3).

The second component is Paul’s stated disposition of comfort and joy toward the repentant within Corinth, when he gave the command (2 Corinthians 7:4).

The third component of Paul’s admonishment is an explanation of how God through recent events involving the Corinthians had comforted Paul and filled him with joy (2 Corinthians 7:5-16).

The first event that God used to comfort Paul and to fill him with joy was the coming of Titus with a good report concerning the Corinthians while Paul was in Macedonia (2 Corinthians 7:5-7).

The second event that God used to comfort Paul and to fill him with joy was the positive response of the Corinthians to the “severe letter” (2 Corinthians 7:8-13).

The third event that God used to comfort Paul and to fill him with joy was the joy of Titus (2 Corinthians 7:13-16).

The joy of Titus, as reported here by Paul in verse 13, not only added to his and his associates’ joy over the positive response of the Corinthians to his severe letter but also greatly added to it.

The source of Titus’ joy was the refreshment that he had received from the Corinthian church, or more specifically from the repentant within the church (2 Corinthians 7:13).

Titus, it would appear, based on 2 Corinthians 7:14, had some serious misgivings about his trip to the Corinthians, which led Paul to boast to him about the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 7:14).

The Pauline expression “fear and trembling” actually has its roots in Isaiah 19:16 and seems to reflect the anxiety over the duty required of a person.

May God give us the grace to rejoice in the spiritual progress of others, and may this joy dominate our lives more and more as we grow in Christ.

The sorrow of the world is not present because of any remorse for sin they have committed in their rebellion against God, but rather because of the painful and unwelcome consequences of the sin.

Paul provided the Corinthians with a sevenfold expression of their repentance in 2 Corinthians 7:11.

May God give us the grace when we sin to manifest the godly sorrow that will lead to repentance and confirm that we are the children of God.