

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

## October 10, 2021 2 Corinthians 2:12-17: Victory in Jesus



Read 2 Corinthians 2:12-17

Who is Titus?

Why is Paul so happy?

All the way forward into chapter 7:

For when we came into Macedonia, we had no rest, but we were harassed at every turn—conflicts on the outside, fears within. But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, and not only by his coming but also by the comfort you had given him. He told us about your longing for me, your deep sorrow, your ardent concern for me, so that my joy was greater than ever.

Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it—I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while—yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what concern, what readiness to see justice done.

(2 Corinthians 7:6-11)

How do you respond when you are convicted that part of your life is not in alignment with God's Word?

It should produce in us (as in the Corinthians) earnestness, eagerness to see justice done, alarm...



What is the victory procession? Are we the captives?

Why are we an "aroma"?

## **Applications from 2 Corinthians:**

1. Jesus is the one who has the victory!

What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. (1 Corinthians 3:5-6)

- 2. We <u>might</u> be the captives in this parade heading off to lay down our life.
- "You are Christians in the measure in which you are the captives of His spear and of His bow; in the measure in which you hold your territories as vassal kings, in the measure in which you say, stretching out your willing hands for the fetters, 'Lord! here am I, do with me as Thou wilt.' I am not mine own; be Thou my will, my Emperor, my Commander, my all." (Alexander MacLaren)
- 3. We are the aroma of life to those being saved and of death to those who are perishing.
- 4. We speak with sincerity as those sent from God. (2 Corinthians 2:17)

And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:19-21)

## **HOME GROUP Questions for 2 Corinthians 2:12-17...**

- 1. How do the two promises in verse 14 change your perspective as you walk this life that is full of challenges, disappointments, uncertainty, etc. Read the following passages and discuss how they relate to verse 14:
  - Romans 8:35-39
  - 1 John 4:4
  - Romans 5:1-5
  - Matthew 5:16
- 2. How do we keep self-interest or ambition from creeping into ministry? Read the following Scriptures and discuss how they clarify this issue? What issues do you see in your own life that exhibit self-interest or ambition?
  - James 4:13-16
  - Philippians 2:1-4