**Transformed: 2 Corinthians wk 9 – Turn Around**

**Have you been caught doping something bad. Video of a women setting up a canopy and chairs going after the guy with a camera.**

**What do you do when you get caught? Corinth was caught…**

**2 Cor 7:2 Make room in your hearts for us. (similar to 6:13) We have wronged no one, we have corrupted no one, we have taken advantage of no one.**

**You’re hearing a lot of trash about us, but we have been nothing but loving and honest with you.**

**3 I do not say this to condemn you, (to guilt you or make you feel bad) for I said before that you are in our hearts, to die together and to live together. (you are my ride or die) 4 I am acting with great boldness toward you; I have great pride in you; I am filled with comfort. In all our affliction, I am overflowing with joy.**

**Even though you are breaking my heart, I deeply care for you and I am committed to you - I’m not giving up on you.**

**5 For even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within. (Ever feel like that?)**

**Afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within! He came from conflict in Ephesus. Riots, torture, nearly lost his life.**

**This was Paul’s life in ministry. It was filled with great joy and great heartache, many blessings, and many conflicts.**

**6 But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us (2 Cor 1:3-4) by the coming of Titus, (they could not find him – picks up from chap 2:13) 7 and not only by his coming but also by the comfort with which he was comforted by you, as he told us of your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced still more.**

**Titus delivered letter 2 to Corinth and was to report and meet back with Paul in Macedonia. But he did not arrive at first.**

**Paul was concerned something had happened to him and that the letter to Corinth would be rejected. So Paul went looking.**

**Titus eventually showed up (what a relief) and gave them good news. Corinth received it and looked forward to Paul coming.**

**He found joy in hearing about their growth & hunger for God.**

**8 For even if I made you grieve with my letter, (missing 2nd letter – the heavy-handed confrontational discipline letter) I do not regret it—though I did regret it, for I see that that letter grieved you, though only for a while. (It was harsh and honest. I was not trying to upset you but to challenge you – sorry not sorry)**

**When I sent it, I knew it would ruffle feathers and upset people. But I was glad to hear when I saw Titus that many of you also took it to heart. God’s discipline – the balm of God on self-inflicted wounds.**

**9 As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us. (You were not harmed by us – this was actually a God thing) 10 For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. 11 For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.**

**\*\* Godly grief/grieved/sorrow (Holy Spirit conviction – recognition and understanding of our sin and rebellious nature) – is good.**

**We are constantly told never to feel bad – or never to let someone make you feel bad. Never feel shame. Just be the best you and don’t listen to others. But God has called us to godly sorrow.**

**Moderator Frank Luntz asked Trump whether he has ever asked God for forgiveness for any actions. “I am not sure I have. I just go on and try to do a better job from there. I don’t think so,” he said. “I think if I do something wrong, I think, I just try and make it right. I don’t bring God into that picture. I don’t.”**

**10 For godly grief produces…**

**\*\* Godly sorrow is not measured by feelings but by what it produces.**

**Godly sorrow realizes they have not only hurt another but have sinned against God.**

**10b …whereas worldly grief produces death.**

**Worldly grief over sin in sorrow because they got caught. It produces regret. Godly sorrow is without regret.**

**\*\* Conviction (draws to God) vs. Condemnation (runs from God)**

**Romans 8:1 There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.**

**Sorrow alone – produces bad feelings and depression**

**Sorrow alone accomplishes nothing. Peter was grieved he denied Christ, and he repented. Judas was grieved he betrayed Christ but, instead of repenting, he killed himself.**

**We are talking about a – “salvation without regret”**

**Without regret – I love that! There is so much we do in this life that we regret. Dumb and hurtful choices. People we hurt and the chaos we bring to our family and friends.**

**But one never regrets true repentance.**

**Those in Christ have a bittersweet understanding of their past. Paul called himself the chief of sinners. (Apostle Paul movie)**

**Like the broken prodigal son – burying his head into the chest of his loving father. “Father, I have sinned, against you!” In the arms of love.**

**Paul list 8 life-giving things godly grief produces.**

**The Fruit of Godly Grief (sorrow) - Signs of true repentance.**

1. **Godly grief produces repentance that leads to salvation.**

**7:10 For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret**

**Repentance has become a neglected word. Some think it seems harsh. But it is an important part of our salvation.**

**Repentance was the message of John the Baptist and Jesus: Mark 8:34 . It was the commission for disciples: Luke 24:46-47 – It was message of the Apostle: Acts 3:19, Acts 17:30-31, 26:19-20.**

**Repentance is a change of mind that results in a change of action.**

**This change of mind (a revealing of our sin by the HS) results in a turning from self to God. This repentance leads to salvation.**

**Repentance is a requirement for salvation. But it is not something we do before we come to God, it is the very act of coming to God. It is the very act of turning to God in faith.**

**Without a brokenness in regard to your sin you will not repent of it. (Acts 3:19) One cannot preach the gospel w/out repentance.**

**Some are moved emotionally to “repent” of sin, but nothing changes. We can tell if it’s godly sorrow or just sad feelings. Paul tells us we can know by what it produces. Does it produce repentance?**

**It’s more than tears.**

**James 4:8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.**

**It is not sorrow for sin that forgives us. It is only by the blood of Jesus.**

**It is the goodness of God – it is the kindness of God – that leads one to repentance. Our grief is the lifting of the veil of our sin to ourselves.**

**We need more repentance and grieving over sin. Believers continue to repent for their sanctification – not for salvation.**

1. **Godly grief produces clear priorities**

**7:11 For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you…**

**Diligence, enthusiasm – a swiftness, quickness to obey God. Clarity on what needs to be done – and what needs to go.**

**One does not just feel bad – there is a quickness walk it out.**

1. **Godly grief produces readiness**

**7:11 but also what eagerness to clear yourselves,**

**Eager to clear ourselves (apologia) – ready and eager to tell others about the new life you have (1 Peter 3:15).**

 **I can’t wait to tell you what dumb thing I did and what good thing God did in me! Our past no longer controls us – it is a part of the redemption of God in me.**

1. **Godly grief produces righteous anger**

**11 …what indignation, (feeling of anger)**

**Anger at the enemy - Anger at sin – in you and the causes of sin.**

**Eph 4:16, Ps 4:4 - “be angry and sin not” (godly anger)**

**Great sorrow, frustration, and anger over sin and the effects of sin. A hatred for the harm and evil of sin. Hatred of injustice.**

1. **Godly grief produces a soberness of mind**

**7:11 …what fear, (alarm)**

**Soberness and seriousness, importance, value of your faith in light of other things. The humility of knowing you might do it again.**

**1 Pet 5:8 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. / 1 Pet 4:7 - The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.**

**Colossians 4:2 - Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. / 1 Thessalonians 5:6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.**

**The weight of your faith outweighs all other things.**

**Phil 2:12 - Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,**

1. **Godly grief produces an aching for righteousness**

**7:11 …what longing,**

**A deep thirst. Strong longing, affection and desire for God. A longing or righteousness and justice. Drawn to prayer & dependence on God.**

**\*\* The Bible says this desire for holiness is motivated out of our love for Jesus. John 14:15, 14:21-23, 15:10, 1 john 2:3, 2 John 1:6 (all say) If you love Jesus you will obey his commands**

**1 John 5:1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well.2This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. 3In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, 4for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 5Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.**

**\*\* This desire for holiness is nurtured by our love for the truth – the word of God - 2 Thess 2:10, 2 Tim 3:15-17**

**You love what God loves – hate what God hates.**

1. **Godly grief produces passion for God**

**7:11 …what zeal,**

**Zeal – word means to burn or be hot. Literally on fire for God!**

**Zeal to pursue and know God. Passion for God and serve others!**

**Romans 12:9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. 10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.**

1. **Godly grief produces a sense of Justice**

**7:11 …what punishment!**

**Lit - Avenging of wrong – to see vindication.**

**A desire for justice upon those who hurt others, promote, a tolerate sin. A readiness to see sin punished - vindication.**

1. **Godly grief produces a desire to make things right**

**7:11 At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.**

**We are washed and made new by Christ - guilt and shame are arrested and bound. This new life is reflected in a changed life.**

**Luke 19:1-10 - Like Zacchaeus response to the love of Jesus. 8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.” 9 Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”**

**This was the response to his godly grief and God’s grace.**

**All these show that repentance is not simply feeling bad and being sorry for something – and repentance is not just a changed life.**

**Repentance is a work of God in a heart. When the HS moves on a heart a deep remorse for sin, a turning to God, and turning from sin results.**

**2 Cor 12 So although I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the one who did the wrong, nor for the sake of the one who suffered the wrong, but in order that your earnestness for us might be revealed to you in the sight of God.**

**This correction was not just for the one who did the wrong, or to comfort the person who was wronged – it was for all who will see God’s will in the matter. To correct our thinking.**

**13 Therefore we are comforted. (by you) And besides our own comfort, we rejoiced still more at the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all. (He sees you are growing) 14 For whatever boasts I made to him about you, I was not put to shame. But just as everything we said to you was true, so also our boasting before Titus has proved true. 15 And his affection for you is even greater, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling. 16 I rejoice because I have complete confidence in you.**

**Paul knows how to serve a good love sandwich.**

**This is a perfect example of the sharp and loving confrontation of a goldy friend and leader.**

**\*\*\* If you love deeply – you can speak boldly.**

**If you love well – you can challenge one well**

**Many often pick one side or the other.**

**Love and no confrontation – speak out with no love.**

**You can absolutely disagree with someone in love – that is a loving thing to do.**

**Paul confronted them boldly and loved them generously. If you love well, and consistently, you have deposits. You can speak honestly into people's lives.**

**2 Corinthians 7:10 For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.**

**God give us conviction of sin – a deep sorrow for what you oppose. Pull the curtain back on our sin – and your grace.**

**A few word on the election:**

**#1 Be humble and Gracious**

**Galatians 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.**

**Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**

**Colossians 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. 6 Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.**

**#2 Our Hope is in the LORD**

**Psalm 118:8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. 9 It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.**

**Psalm 146:3 Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. 4 When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. 5 Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God, 6 who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; 7 who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.**

**\* God comforts through the Holy Spirit (2:6, 1:3-4)**

**\* God comforts through encouraging friendships (2:6)**

**\* God comforts through encouraging words (2:7)**