

Friday, September 11, 2026
Brent Bogar

Essential Truth: *Repentance restores clarity, strengthens love, and brings joy to the body of Christ.*

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 7:12-13a

"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. Therefore we are comforted."

Observations:

- God often uses conviction to reveal what is truly in our hearts.
- Repentance is not merely feeling sorry; it is responding to God's correction with humble obedience.
- When believers respond to correction, relationships are strengthened rather than weakened.
- The health of the whole body of Christ matters more than the comfort of avoiding hard conversations.
- Joy often comes on the other side of repentance, reconciliation, and renewed fellowship.

Application: Most of us do not enjoy being corrected. Whether it comes through Scripture, a trusted friend, a spouse, a coach, or the prompting of the Holy Spirit, our first instinct is often to defend ourselves. Yet Paul reminds us that loving correction is not about winning an argument or proving someone wrong. It is about restoration. God's purpose is not condemnation but transformation. He desires to remove the things that cloud our vision so we can see Him, ourselves, and one another more clearly.

When we humbly acknowledge our sin, receive God's grace, and make things right with others, joy returns. The burden of pride is lifted, the power of shame is destroyed, relationships are healed, and the body of Christ becomes stronger. The path of repentance may be uncomfortable, but it always leads to something better on the other side.

Prayer: *Father, thank You for loving me enough to correct me when I stray. Give me a humble heart that is quick to listen, quick to repent, and eager to follow Your ways. Remove any pride, bitterness, or defensiveness that keeps me from receiving Your truth. Help me to pursue reconciliation where relationships need healing and to encourage my brothers with both grace and truth. May our lives reflect the joy that comes from walking closely with You. In Jesus' name, amen.*

