**“The Marks of Repentance”**

2 Corinthians 7:10-16

**I. Marks of Repentance**

**A) What is Repentance?**

: a change of mind leading to a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**B) What does it Look Like?**

 1) worldly sorrow v. godly sorrow

2) “Earnestness” (repentance is ultimately a gift Acts 5:31; 11:18)

3) 6 marks following Earnestness

4) Biblical Repentance is Visible/ Plain (see Luke 3:3; Acts 26:20)

**II. The Why of Repentance**

**A) God’s Rationale** (Romans 2:4; Luke 13:3; 2 Corinthians 7:9)

**B) The Corinthian Situation** (it is **“**good for you” see Acts 3:19)

**III. Some Questions you might be Asking**

**A) Questions you Might be Considering**

1) *How is God great in this passage? What is happening that only God could do?*

2) *What if someone goes through the motions of repentance (‘they say the words’) but these 7 things mentioned in the passage aren’t particularly apparent, should I receive that as genuine?*

 a) be patient

b) Luke 17:3-4

i) ‘pay attention to yourselves’; ii) if they say ‘I repent’ - called to take it at face value …

3) *What if I am ‘trying to repent’ and I don’t “feel” these seven marks very strongly?*

 a) be patient, you can’t drum up genuine repentance

 b) it takes grace

c) emotion follows obedience, not obedience follows emotion - God measures by obedience (Mt 21:28 two sons in the vineyard)

4) *What do I do if there is no reconciliation?*

5) *How can I biblically repent?*

 1) be specific

 2) own your sin (don’t try to include their sin in your confession)

 3) use biblical terminology - gospel language

 4) if they say, ‘that’s OK’ - gently, humbly say, ‘I appreciate your kindness, but not OK’

**B) Questions for You To Consider**

1) *Are you making it easy for others to repent?* (Approachable?, ‘I told you so!’, self- righteous?)

God’s response = 1 John 1:9

2) *Do you demand the full effect of the 7 marks before you are willing to forgive?*

 i) be gracious! ii) Don’t be surprised!

3) *Are you regularly repenting? When was the last time you repented of something?*