

2 Corinthians 7:13-16

The Prodigal's welcome

An important distinction



Conviction of a particular sin

Sin centered
Repentance from the sin



Rejection of self

Self centered
Repentance from self righteousness

The Christian will have Godly sorrow but should not have debilitating shame.



God's tool before repentance

drawing us to the Cross

being disciplined as a son

God's tool after repentance

Unresolved shame is spiritual abuse.



Convincing us that we are accepted only on the basis of our own moral merit.

Satan's tool after repentance

The Gospel is all about dealing with Shame



Christ bore our shame.

Isaiah 53

To retain our shame is to reject the Cross.

The Prodigal's 1st blessing

He saw himself as a needy sinner.



Luke 15

"¹¹ And He said, "A certain man had two sons; ¹² and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.' And he divided his wealth between them. ¹³ And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there he squandered his estate with loose living. ¹⁴ Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ And he went and attached himself to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he was longing to fill his stomach with the pods that the swine were eating, and no one was giving anything to him. ¹⁷ **But when he came to his senses,** he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger! ¹⁸ **I will get up and go to my father,** and will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men.' ²⁰ **And he got up and came to his father.**"

The Prodigal's 2nd blessing

**He experienced his Father
as a gracious
 Savior.**



Luke 15

"But while he was still a long way off, **his father saw him, and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him, and kissed him.** ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, '**Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet; ²³ and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and be merry; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.**' And they began to be merry. "

The Prodigal's 3rd blessing

**He dined with his father
and his father's
servants.**



Luke 15

"²⁵ Now his older son was in the field, and when he came and approached the house, **he heard music and dancing.** ²⁶ And he summoned one of the servants and began inquiring what these things might be. ²⁷ And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ **But he became angry, and was not willing to go in;** and his father came out and began entreating him. ²⁹ But he answered and said to his father, 'Look! For so many years I have been serving you, and I have never neglected a command of yours; and yet you have never given me a kid, that I might be merry with my friends; ³⁰ but when this son of yours came, who has devoured your wealth with harlots, you killed the fattened calf for him.' ³¹ And he said to him, 'My child, you have always been with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² **But we had to be merry and rejoice, for this brother of yours was dead and has begun to live, and was lost and has been found.**"

2 Corinthians 2

Restoration builder #1 Depersonalize the offenses.

"⁵ But if any has caused sorrow, he has caused sorrow not to me, but in some degree - in order not to say too much - to all of you."

Restoration builder #2 Discontinue the discipline.

"⁶ Sufficient for such a one is this punishment (reproof) which was inflicted by the majority."

Restoration builder #3 Dramatize the love.

"⁷ so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort him, lest somehow such a one be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸ Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him."

Restoration builder #4 Disarm the enemy.

"⁹ For to this end also I wrote that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. ¹⁰ But whom you forgive anything, I forgive also; for indeed what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, I did it for your sakes in the presence of Christ, ¹¹ in order that no advantage be taken of us by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his schemes."