

STAND FIRM

A STUDY OF THE ARMOR OF GOD



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MISSION 6

MISSION 6: HELMET OF SALVATION (EPHESIANS 6:17)

The Uniform: Helmet of Salvation

You have already been issued several pieces of armor. What are they and what are they for? (Allow students to answer, helping as needed.) Today, you will be issued the Helmet of Salvation. When Paul was writing this letter to the Ephesians, Roman Soldiers wore bronze helmets on their heads with pieces that came down and covered their cheeks and jaw. The helmet would have been heavy, so it was padded inside. It protected the face and head, otherwise a blow to the head would be fatal.

What in the world does salvation have to do with a helmet? Well, let's talk about salvation first. Salvation happens when you are saved from something. If a friend of yours, who couldn't swim, fell into a pool and you jumped in and saved them, you saved that friend from a physical death, drowning. What is it we need to be spiritually saved from? Look up Romans 3:23 in your Instruction Manual, the Bible. What does it say? All of us have sinned. Now, look up Romans 6:23. What does it say? The first part of the verse says that the wages of sin is death. That means that what we earn, or deserve, for sinning is death. That is NOT good news! The verse doesn't end there, thankfully. It continues, "but the free gift of God is eternal life." God gives eternal life because He loved us so much that He offered His one and only Son to die the death we deserve for sinning. Whoever believes in Him won't die spiritually, instead will have eternal life.

The Swearing-In: Have you enlisted?

Is that you? Are you aware of your sin? Do you realize that what you deserve for that sin is spiritual death? Have you trusted the promise that God offers you eternal life? Do you believe that God sent Jesus to die in your place so that you could enjoy that eternal life? If you have any questions, let's talk after the lesson.

OBJECTIVES:

- To be reminded who the enemy is
- To be prepared to stand firm
- To continue issuing equipment
- To be sure of enlistment

FROM THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL:

(Memory Verse)

Being sorry in the way God wants makes a person change his heart and life. This leads to salvation, and we cannot be sorry for that. But the kind of sorrow the world has will bring death.

2 Corinthians 7:10
(ICB)

Combat Intelligence: The Enemy

When we first began this study of the Armor of God, we talked about our enemy. He will trick you and lie to you and make you believe that no one could ever really love you the way God does. If you are a follower of Christ, you are not immune. This enemy wants to ruin your reputation, keep you from leading others to Christ, and ultimately destroy you. If you have not yet given your life to God, your enemy wants to keep you from doing just that. What he will try to do, if the flaming arrows don't stop us, is to give us a blow to the head that does. What he might have forgotten, though, is that is what happens to him instead! (Genesis 3:15)

The Battle Plan: Be Prepared to Stand Firm

Salvation isn't just looking back to the day you invited Jesus into your heart. True salvation in Jesus Christ forgives our past sins and helps us not sin. Your enemy will attack the mind. He knows that once you belong to Christ, your salvation is secure. Don't think for a minute that the knowledge of your security keeps Satan away. You can be prepared to stand firm against the devil's evil schemes by keeping the helmet of salvation in place and by "taking every thought captive." (2 Corinthians 10:5)

Don't just let your mind run away with you. Be changed by letting your mind be renewed as you focus on the things of God. (Romans 12:2) Decide what you will think about and what you won't. Think about things that are "true and good and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely, and dwell on the fine, good things in others. Think about all you can praise God for and be glad about." (Philippians 4:8 TLB)

So, salvation isn't just the day you invited Jesus into your heart, although that was a very important day! It was just the beginning. Every day we live, salvation is about keeping ourselves under God's control and not trying to run things ourselves. That's not all. "Someday you'll die and be at home with your heavenly Father and the family of God. You'll sin no more. Isn't that something to look forward to?"¹

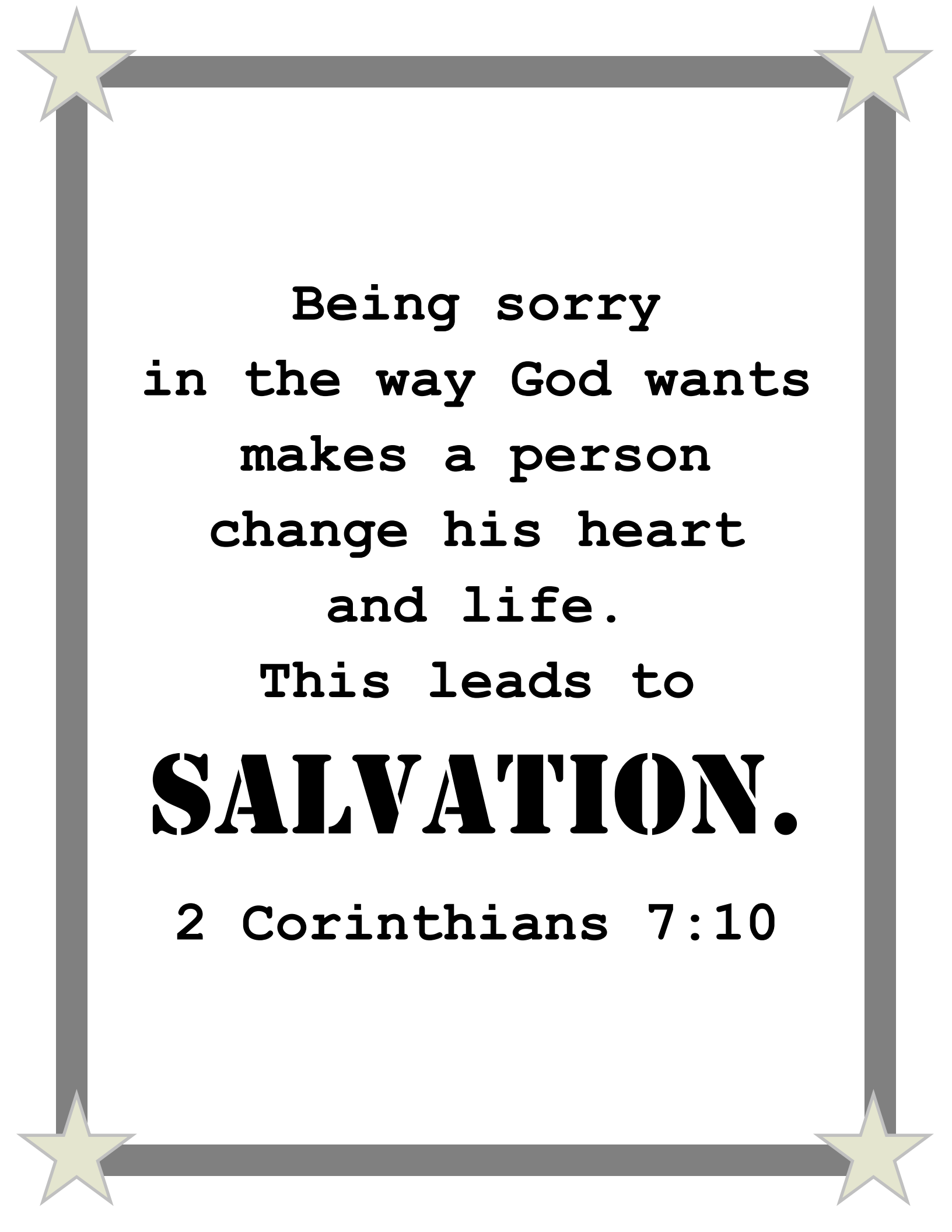
¹ Arthur, Kay. Lord, Is It Warfare? Teach Me to Stand. 1991. Waterbrook Press. p. 252.

ACTIVITIES



- Make helmets. Be sure they include the memory verse in your decoration.
- Continue memorizing Ephesians 6:10-20 (Spiritual Basic Training). Do a verse or phrase at a time and make up hand motions that will help your students remember.
- Run Relay Races to enforce the idea of Basic Training.
- Learn and sing "The Battle Belongs to the Lord" and "I'm In the Lord's Army," "Be Bold," and "Trust and Obey."
- Review the Plan of Salvation. Make bookmarks, bracelets, crosses, wordless books or whatever will make the plan of salvation clear to your students. (Try teaching the Roman Road, since we are talking about Roman Armor.)
- **Extra Training:** Read the following verses about Satan's attacks on the mind? What do you learn? Matthew 16:21-23, Luke 22:1-6, Acts 5:1-4, James 4:7, 1 John 3:8.
- **Extra Training:** Read Exodus 17:8-16 (Aaron and Hur). Discuss the battle of against the Amalekites in light of our lesson on salvation. OR look at a battle won, but LOST by Saul (1 Samuel 15:1-23)



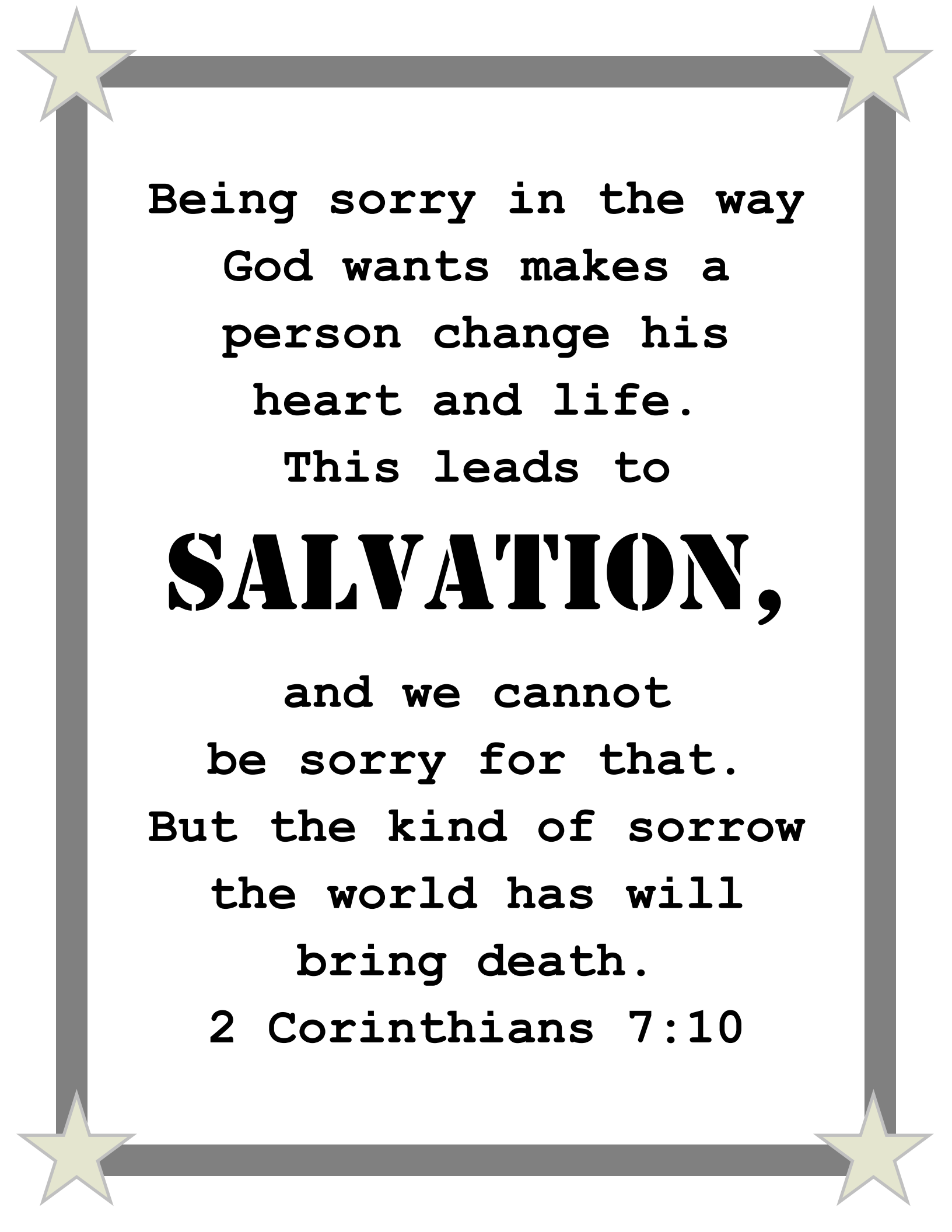


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This leads to

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WORD SEARCH



r r e g o d s c o n t r o l m
t u l r e e g a r f i t c a i
r g u d s t o p t a v h a l s
u p r o t e c t m i n d e s w
s o a k e r l i a o h e r i o
t u t m m n b v p b t n f n r
g r e t l a r e n e w m i n d
o t r e e l r t t d b m s o a
d h e f h l o h o i a y w m g
n o b r i i w o o e d n e o n
y t a c c f s u t n o n s r i
n l t s t e d g y c b o d e m
s e r e i g o h v e d e o u a
e b h e n o i t a v l a s t l
o r i g h t e s u s n e g s f

helmet

salvation

God's control

protect mind

captive thoughts

renew mind

obedience

eternal life

sin no more

WORD SEARCH



Answers

r r e g o d s c o n t r o l m
t u l r e e g a r f i t c a i
r g u d s t o p t a v h a l s
u p r o t e c t m i n d e s w
s o a k e r l i a o h e r i o
t u t m m n b v p b t n f n r
g r e t l a r e n e w m i n d
o t r e e l r t t d b m s o a
d h e f h l o h o i a y w m g
n o b r i i w o o e d n e o n
y t a c c f s u t n o n s r i
n l t s t e d g y c b o d e m
s e r e i g o h v e d e o u a
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