

TITLE | On Losing Heart, Part 2
SERIES | Beyond Our Strength
TEXT | 2 Corinthians 4:7-18
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2 Corinthians 4:7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. 8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. 11 For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of lesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. 12 So death is at work in us, but life in you. 13 Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, 14 knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into

his presence. 15 For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. 16 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.

17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen

BIG IDEA:

are eternal. ESV

SERMON NOTES

2 Corinthians 4:16 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. *ESV*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-12. Is our weakness a disadvantage? Why or why not? How is this helpful, especially during hardships in which you are tempted to lose heart?

Tuesday:

Read 2 Corinthians 4:13-15. From this text, identify evidence that Paul is focused on serving the wellbeing of others. What does this suggest our focus should be, especially during hardships in which we are tempted to lose heart?

Wednesday:

Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. How is it that our inner self can be renewed while our outer self is wasting away? (See Romans 5:3-5.) How is this helpful?

Thursday:

What is the "weight of glory" in verse 17? What is our part in the weight of glory we will experience? How is this helpful?

Friday:

In what specific ways can you focus less on your weakness and more on God's strength? In what specific ways can you focus less on yourself and more on others? In what specific ways can you focus less on the seen and more on the unseen?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, when my trials seem beyond my strength to bear, help me to hold onto you, that I may be strengthened with the power of Jesus, that I may serve in the pattern of Jesus, and that I may hope in the promise of Jesus for the eternal weight of glory that awaits me. Amen.