

Resurrection Life

MESSAGE: CHARLIE MENG

MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH

DATE: MAY 8, 2022

We Do Not Lose Hope! 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

2 Cor. 4:16 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 unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Paul's proposition: God's work continues to transform us despite suffering.

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

1. Faithful endurance demonstrates the legitimacy of the gospel.

2 Cor. 4:14 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. *16a* So we do not lose heart.

2. Even though we should be discouraged, we aren't because of the inner work God is accomplishing.

2 Cor. 4:16b Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.

Our process: We focus on the glory of the gospel in the midst of hardships.

2 Cor. 4:17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, *18a* as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen.

1. God uses our suffering to amplify our gospel hope.

2 Cor. 4:17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,

Jesus serves as the ultimate example of this process.

Heb. 12:3 Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

2. Our responsibility is to set our minds on the complete benefits of the gospel.
2 Cor. 4:18a as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen.

These benefits include:

- a. Relationship with God
2 Cor. 4:6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
 - b. Transformation into the image of Christ
2 Cor. 3:18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.
 - c. Future resurrection
2 Cor. 4:14 knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence.
3. We do this, understanding that our suffering will stop but the glories of the gospel never will.
2 Cor. 4:18b For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Reflection & Discussion

- 1 When you encounter suffering, what is your knee-jerk reaction or response? How does this section challenge that reaction?
- 2 Take time this week to write out a list of the benefits of the gospel. Use this list to guide your gratitude to God. Focus on them in the midst of suffering.

SONGS

"I AM SET FREE" - Leslie Jordan

"THIS IS AMAZING GRACE" - Phil Wickham, Josh Farro, Jeremy Riddle

"JESUS WE LOVE YOU" – Hannah McClure, Kalley Heilingenthal, Paul McClure

"CHRIST IS RISEN (HALLELUJAH)" - Brian Johnson, Mack Brock, and Phil Wickham

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 40,139.40

WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,093.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$610,356.73

Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$649,674.00