

*Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV)*

## **Renewed Inwardly**

I don't know why I thought I would be young forever. How have all the years gone by so quickly? Who is that old person staring back at me in the mirror? Is that really me? I can hardly believe it. I can think of days long ago that seem like yesterday. People and places and things are all quite different, nothing looks the same. Everything has changed. Nothing remains as it once was. Now, I know without a doubt, that this life is like a blink of an eye or a snap of the fingers. Soon, my life here will be over. I could be sad. I could be discouraged. I could be depressed. I could feel the pain and suffering of loss. But, I don't. I think and feel none of those things. **Why is that?** My heart and mind and life are not focused on this life. What I can see from this life does not command my attention. In many ways this life is like a mirage up ahead on a hot roadway. This life is not the ultimate reality. You have so much more for me. Eternal life awaits me. So, my heart and mind and life are focused on the unseen. My heart and mind and life are focused on you and heaven that is prepared for me. So, I am not discouraged or depressed. I feel no pain and suffering with loss. I have everything to gain when I begin my new life with you. **Yes, you do.**

But there is more. **What else is there?** As my outward body wastes away, I am being renewed inwardly day by day. You are molding me. You are shaping me. You have given me a new heart and mind. You have fixed my heart and mind and life on you. So, I am lifted up. I am encouraged. I am spurred on to live the rest of my life with and for you. For me, eternal life has already begun. You are now preparing me for my final destination. Soon, I will come to live forever in heaven with you. **Yes, you will.** I eagerly look forward to that day. **That is very good.**

*Lord, it is obvious, my outward body is wasting away. That could be discouraging if this life was my focus. My heart and mind and life are focused on you. I'm looking at what is invisible and eternal. Keep on renewing me inwardly as I love, follow and serve you. Amen*

**Becoming Like Christ** *Renewed Day By Day*

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

NIV 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**Becoming Like Christ** *Renewed Every Day*

That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

NLT 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**Becoming Like Christ** *Renewed Day By Day*

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

NRSV 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**Becoming Like Christ** *Renewed Day After Day*

Therefore we do not become discouraged (utterly spiritless, exhausted, and wearied out through fear). Though our outer man is [progressively] decaying and wasting away, yet our inner self is being [progressively] renewed day after day. For our light, momentary affliction (this slight distress of the passing hour) is ever more and more abundantly preparing and producing and achieving for us an everlasting weight of glory [beyond all measure, excessively surpassing all comparisons and all calculations, a vast and transcendent glory and blessedness never to cease!]. Since we consider and look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are visible are temporal (brief and fleeting), but the things that are invisible are deathless and everlasting.

AMP 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**Becoming Like Christ** *Renewed Day By Day*

Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

NASB 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**Becoming Like Christ** *Renewed Day By Day*

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 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.

ESV 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**Becoming Like Christ** *Renewed Day By Day*

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

NKJV 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**Becoming Like Christ** *Making Us New*

So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without his unfolding grace. These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times, the lavish celebration prepared for us. There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever.

MSG 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**Becoming Like Christ** *Growing Every Day*

That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our inner strength in the Lord is growing every day. These troubles and sufferings of ours are, after all, quite small and won't last very long. Yet this short time of distress will result in God's richest blessing upon us forever and ever! So we do not look at what we can see right now, the troubles all around us, but we look forward to the joys in heaven which we have not yet seen. The troubles will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever.

TLB 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**Becoming Like Christ** *Made New Every Day*

So we do not give up. Our physical body is becoming older and weaker, but our spirit inside us is made new every day. We have small troubles for a while now, but they are helping us gain an eternal glory that is much greater than the troubles. We set our eyes not on what we see but on what we cannot see. What we see will last only a short time, but what we cannot see will last forever.

NCV 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

# Renewed Day By Day

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Becoming Like Christ** – 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

**In Context:** 2 Corinthians 4

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Therefore | we | do not | lose heart. | Though outwardly | we are | wasting away, | yet inwardly | we are | being renewed | day by day. | For our | light | and | momentary troubles | are achieving | for us | an eternal glory | that | far outweighs | them all. | So we fix our eyes | not on | what is seen, | but on | what is unseen. | For what | is seen | is temporary, | but | what is | unseen | is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, it is obvious, my outward body is wasting away. That could be discouraging if this life was my focus. My heart and mind and life are focused on you. I'm looking at what is invisible and eternal. Keep on renewing me inwardly as I love, follow and serve you. Amen

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**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How has the Lord use His word to renew you inwardly day by day?

**What spiritual disciplines has the Lord used to renew you inwardly?**

**What role do you have in making yourself available to the Lord's day by day renewal of your life?**

**How has keeping your heart and mind and life focused on the Lord been part of your inward renewal?**

How is having an eternal and heavenly perspective been a part of your inward renewal?

How is your inward renewal encouraging even as you go through difficulties in life?

How is your inward daily renewal encouraging you even as your outward body wastes away?

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**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow the Lord to renew you inwardly day by day as you love, follow and serve Him.

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**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord is renewing you inwardly day by day as you keep yourself focused on Him.

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**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has been renewing you inwardly.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you allow the Lord to continue His day by day renewal of you inwardly.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will allow you to continue to renew me inwardly as keep my heart and mind and life focused on you.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how do you want to renew me inwardly today?*

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