

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)

Don't Lose Heart

Don't lose heart. Why should I not lose heart? **That is a good question. I will tell you how you will certainly lose heart.** How is that? **If your heart and mind and life are focused on this life and the things of this earth, you will certainly lose heart.** Why is that? **This sin broken world is full of pain and suffering and sickness and death. When sin came into this world it ceased to function according to its original design. Nothing in this world has been left untouched by sin. Does any of this surprise you?** No, not at all. **Look at your own body. You are no longer as young as you once were. Outwardly, your body is wasting away. You are growing old.** Yes, I am. **If you were to focus on the passage of time and the condition of your body, you would certainly lose heart.** Yes, that is true. **Look at the changes that have been occurring all around. Friends have come and gone. Love ones have passed away. You have experienced significant loses.** There is no doubt about that. **Look at what were once your prized possessions. Most are long gone from rust and decay.** Are we coming to the encouraging part yet? If we keep going, I might continue to lose even more heart. **I want you to see that nothing from this life will keep you from losing heart.** I get that. You have me convinced. **That's good.**

Maybe I should ask a better question. **What's that?** How can I be kept from losing heart? **That is a far better question. I will help you with the answer.** I'd like that. **Focus your heart and mind and life on me. Focus your heart and mind and life on what is unseen and eternal. Focus your heart and mind life on the fact that I am renewing you inwardly day by day. I am doing a work in you every day as you love and follow and serve me. This life and all that is in it will pass away. The troubles of this life are but for a moment. One day you will come to live forever with me in the glorious splendor of heaven. Follow me to where I lead. Do what I give you to do. Bear fruit for my kingdom. Bring glory to my name. Allow me to use you for my purposes to fulfil my plans. Do all these things and you will never lose heart.** I will do all that you are asking of me. **That will be very good.** Thank you, Lord.

Lord, it is obvious that my body is wasting away. That does not discourage me. I know that I am not meant for this life. No, day by day you are renewing me inwardly. You are helping me to keep my focus on you and what is unseen and eternal. Thank you for that. Amen

Promises *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

Promises *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

Promises *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

Promises *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

Promises *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

Promises *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

Promises *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

Promises *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

Promises *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

Promises *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 ____

Promises – 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

In Context: *Read 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?)***

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

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

Lord, it is obvious that my body is wasting away. That does not discourage me. I know that I am not meant for this life. No, day by day you are renewing me inwardly. You are helping me to keep my focus on you and what is unseen and eternal. Thank you for that. Amen

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

Why will you not doubt lose heart if your focus is on this life and the things of this earth?
Why will a misplaced focus on what is seen and temporary cause you to misspend your life?
How does knowing the eternal glory that awaits you help you to go through temporary troubles?
What encouragement is yours in knowing that you are being renewed inwardly day by day?

How are you keeping your eyes on the Lord and what is unseen and eternal?

How is your focus on things unseen and eternal guiding the best use of your time, talent and resources?

What are you now doing solely because your focus is on the unseen and eternal?

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

Fix your eyes on what is unseen and eternal as the Lord renews you inwardly day by day.

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 fix your eyes on what is unseen and eternal.

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 day by day.

Close With Prayer:

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

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?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

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

May you fix your eyes on what is unseen and eternal.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, I will fix my eyes on what is unseen and eternal.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what do you want me to see as I fix my eyes on what is unseen and eternal?
