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**1 Corinthians 4:16-18 (CSB)**  
<sup>16</sup> Therefore we do not give up. Even though our outer person is being destroyed, our inner person is being renewed day by day.  
<sup>17</sup> For our momentary light affliction is producing for us an absolutely incomparable eternal weight of glory.

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**1 Corinthians 4:16-18 (CSB)**  
<sup>18</sup> So we do not focus on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

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**Ecclesiastes 2:10-11 (CSB)**

<sup>10</sup> All that my eyes desired, I did not deny them. I did not refuse myself any pleasure, for I took pleasure in all my struggles. This was my reward for all my struggles.

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**Ecclesiastes 2:10-11 (CSB)**

<sup>11</sup> When I considered all that I had accomplished and what I had labored to achieve, I found everything to be futile and a pursuit of the wind. There was nothing to be gained under the sun.

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1) We will never find satisfaction in this world.

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**Ecclesiastes 3:9-13 (CSB)**

<sup>9</sup> What does the worker gain from his struggles?

<sup>10</sup> I have seen the task that God has given the children of Adam to keep them occupied.

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**Ecclesiastes 3:9-13 (CSB)**

<sup>11</sup> He has made everything appropriate in its time. He has also put eternity in their hearts, but no one can discover the work God has done from beginning to end.

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**Ecclesiastes 3:9-13 (CSB)**

<sup>12</sup> I know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice and enjoy the good life.

<sup>13</sup> It is also the gift of God whenever anyone eats, drinks, and enjoys all his efforts.

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2) God is Sovereign.

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“Our pain and suffering isn't to hurt us. It's to save us. To save us from a life where we are self-reliant, self-satisfied, self-absorbed, and set up for the greatest pain of all...separation from God.”

~ Lysa Terkeurst,  
*It's Not Supposed to be This Way*

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We can't understand  
God's plans fully.

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**Job 40:9-14 (CSB)**

<sup>9</sup>“Do you have an arm like God’s? Can you thunder with a voice like his?”

<sup>10</sup>Adorn yourself with majesty and splendor, and clothe yourself with honor and glory.

<sup>11</sup>Pour out your raging anger; look on every proud person and humiliate him.

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**Job 40:9-14 (CSB)**

<sup>12</sup>Look on every proud person and humble him; trample the wicked where they stand.

<sup>13</sup>Hide them together in the dust; imprison them in the grave.

<sup>14</sup>Then I will confess to you that your own right hand can deliver you.”

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HE’S God, I’m not.

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“Stop trying to make sense of things that make no sense in the middle of the journey. And to stop asking for the knowledge that’s too heavy for us to carry.”

~ Lysa Terkeurst,  
*It's Not Supposed to be This Way*

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“If we weren’t ever shattered, we’d never know the glorious touch of the Potter making something glorious out of dust, out of us...God isn’t ever going to forsake you, but He will go to great lengths to remake you.”

~ Lysa Terkeurst,  
*It's Not Supposed to be This Way*

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He never promised that our road would be easy.  
In fact, He promised the exact opposite.

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3) There is hope in the midst of suffering.

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**Romans 5:1-5 (CSB)**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>2</sup> We have also obtained access through him by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

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**Romans 5:1-5 (CSB)**

<sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces

<sup>4</sup> endurance, endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope.

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**Romans 5:1-5 (CSB)**

<sup>5</sup>This hope will not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

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22

It took God taking things I wanted and people I loved away from me for me to fully submit to my need for Him.

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23

**Psalms 71:14-15 (CSB)**

<sup>14</sup> But I will hope continually and will praise you more and more.  
<sup>15</sup> My mouth will tell about your righteousness and your salvation all day long, though I cannot sum them up.

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**1 Corinthians 4:16-18 (CSB)**

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**1 Corinthians 4:16-18 (CSB)**

<sup>18</sup> So we do not focus on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

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