#### 2 Corinthians 4.16-18 "Therefore we do not lose heart." Why, let's look back...

#### 1. The Light of Christ has shone in our hearts (v.6). WE are no longer blind (v. 4).

"For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:6, NASB95)

#### 2. We have the treasure of God's power in our earthen vessels (v.7).

"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;" (2 Corinthians 4:7, NASB95)

### 3. We cannot be defeated because of this (vv.8-10)

"we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body." (2 Corinthians 4:8–10, NASB95)

### 4. The life of Jesus is being manifested in our mortal flesh (v.11).

"For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh." (2 Corinthians 4:11, NASB95)

#### 5. We have a spirit of faith (v.13).

"But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE," we also believe, therefore we also speak" (2 Corinthians 4:13, NASB95)

#### 6. We will be eternally resurrected (v. 14).

"knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you." (2 Corinthians 4:14, NASB95)

**7.** The spreading grace will multiply to the glory of God. "For all things are for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God." (2 Corinthians 4:15, NASB95)

#### 4:16-18

1. This world will not discourage us.

#### 2. Our inner man is being renewed day-day

#### 3. Afflictions we face are temporary

*"For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,"* (2 Corinthians 4:17, NASB95)

#### 4. We look at all life through an eternal perspective

"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." (2 Corinthians 4:18, NASB95)

## EXTRAS: Jesus People are Eternal August 27, 2023 Compelled Church

Think of what you think about, talk about, read, and watch. Notice how much the temporary things of this world really are part of our lives. It can't be helped. We have to move and live in this world. In the midst of that, we are also eternal. With intentionality, we can be more eternally minded focused, and thoughtful. This chapter helps us do that.

**Read 2 Corinthians 4.1-18** The first verse and the 16<sup>th</sup> verse both say not to "lose heart" or become discouraged. That is easy to do if we only have the temporary to focus on and we neglect the eternal. In the message, the Pastor gave seven reasons we have to not lose heart, become discouraged, or give up. Let's review them and ponder them.

## 1. The Light of Christ has shone in our hearts (v.6). WE are no longer blind (v. 4).

"For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:6, NASB95)

Thought: Think of how Christ's light rescued you from the darkness. Say a prayer of thanksgiving. Give God the glory.

### 2. We have the treasure of God's power in our earthen vessels (v.7).

"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;" (2 Corinthians 4:7, NASB95)

How has God' surpassing great power been revealed in your life? With God's power we do not have to lose heart.

# 3. We cannot be defeated because of this (vv.8-10)

"we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body." (2 Corinthians 4:8–10, NASB95)

Have you felt like giving up? I'm sure you have, but Paul encourages us that we have the life of Jesus in us.

# 4. The life of Jesus is being manifested in our mortal flesh (v.11).

"For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh." (2 Corinthians 4:11, NASB95)

In Christ, we are changed, and He lives in our temporary flesh. How does he show Himself in your life? How does this impact others?

Application: Our lives make Jesus known. People can see him in us.

# 5. We have a spirit of faith (v.13).

"But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE," we also believe, therefore we also speak" (2 Corinthians 4:13, NASB95)

Read Romans 11.1-2 and Romans 10.17. What does the Word say about faith? How can our faith grow? What is faith? Because of our faith in the eternal Christ, we are overcomers.

#### 6. We will be eternally resurrected (v. 14).

"knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you." (2 Corinthians 4:14, NASB95)

. How does this reality impact life now? How does it impact how you look at money, materialism, culture, news, and others

**The spreading grace will multiply to the glory of God.** *"For all things are for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God."* (2 Corinthians 4:15, NASB95) Take time to thank God for the spreading of grace and the Gospel. Pray for those you love who need Him.