



Do Not Lose Heart

By Johnny Caruso on April 27, 2021

TODAY'S READING: 2 Corinthians 4

Paul starts with the theme in verse 1 and then repeats it in verse 16 "Do not lose heart."

We are not to lose heart in the ministry of evangelism. We are to speak the truth plainly. We are not to use deception or manipulation, but rely on the power of God and His Word to open the blind eyes of those far from God. This will help us to not lose heart. It is God's Word. It is God's work. He must do it. He is the one who draws the hearts of men to Himself. When we depend on words we say to convince someone to receive Christ and they don't, it makes us feel like we have failed or said something wrong.

We are not to lose heart because of our weaknesses. Our weaknesses are exposed so people can see that the power is from God, and not from us. If you are like me and recognize your weaknesses, you know where your power comes from (vs. 7). It is a great comfort for me to realize it all depends on God and He allows me to be used by Him to accomplish His work and will. When my weaknesses are exposed, His power is revealed.

We will not lose heart if we look at the eternal perspective. I used to be a pretty good athlete. As I get older my body gets weaker and more weary. It takes longer to recoup from hard work and activity. Trish continues to remind me that I am not 25 any longer. (My generation is the first that tries so hard to stay young.) Verses 16-18 tell us that God is building up and renewing the inside spiritual self and that the eternal weight of glory is beyond all comparison. While times may on occasion be hard, we have an eternal future that gives us great courage, hope and strength, even in the midst of such difficulties.

So what then should we do to not lose heart? Consciously and deliberately "fix your eyes not on what is seen but what is unseen." Spend time prayerfully imagining heaven. Fix your eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.

PRAYER: Lord, it is so easy to look at the world, compare ourselves to it and lose heart. Help us know that You are in control. Help us to continually fix our eyes on You and trust in Your sufficiency to live our lives.

TOMORROW'S READING: 2 Corinthians 5

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