

*Sermon: Do Not Lose Heart; delivered on July 26, 2020,
by Dan Hiben, high school pastor*

Bible text explored: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸as 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]

Review and application:

1. Paul (*verse 16a*) repeats what he has insisted earlier in the same chapter. To what (*verse 1*) do they owe their ministry?
What (*verse 5a*) is that ministry?
And what (*verse 15*) is the expected outcome?
2. But what adversities (*verses 8-9*) must have tempted those disciples to give up?
3. In what sense (*verse 16b*) is our outer being “wasting away”?
But how is our inner self “being renewed” every day?
1. Do our current troubles (*verse 17*) seem “light” or “momentary”?
But were they any less for Paul?
So with what “eternal weight of glory” should they be compared?
(See *Philippians 3:20-21*.)
2. How (*verse 18*) can we learn to discount the clamor of current circumstances?
How can we be transformed by focusing on invisible but eternal realities?
(See *2 Corinthians 3:18; 5:6-8*.)
3. How will seeing ourselves in a metamorphosis stage help us face “cocoon-like” lockdowns we may encounter?
(See *Hebrews 12:2*.)