

2 CORINTHIANS | STARING AT THINGS UNSEEN

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-18

Can we as flawed human beings be effective in reaching people for Christ? Is suffering for the sake of the gospel worth it? Should our focus be on the material things this world offers or something beyond? These are questions Paul answered when he wrote to the Corinthians in his second letter. Paul's apostleship was being questioned by the Corinthians. False teachers were turning them against Paul, while he was suffering so that many could hear the gospel and be saved. Paul persevered through many trials so that God would receive thanksgiving and glory. He persevered so that the Corinthians and others would know Christ and be in His presence for eternity. He encouraged the Corinthian church to turn away from a focus on temporary things and instead focus on an eternity with Christ. What can we know that will enable us to endure suffering well for Christ?

1. The power of God is displayed in the contrast between our human _____ and the glorious _____. 4:7
2. _____ for the sake of the gospel leads to people receiving eternal life by God's _____ and to be filled with an attitude of _____ toward God who deserves all glory. 4:8-15
3. Our focus should not be on the _____, _____ things that are fading away but the _____ things that are _____. 4:16-18