

Now we have this treasure in clay jars, so that this extraordinary power may be from God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way but not crushed; we are perplexed but not in despair; we are persecuted but not abandoned; we are struck down but not destroyed. We always carry the death of Jesus in our body, so that the life of Jesus may also be displayed in our body. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus's sake, so that Jesus's life may also be displayed in our mortal flesh. So then, death is at work in us, but life in you.

2 Corinthians 4:7-12 CSB

FOCUS PROBLEM

2 Corinthians 4:7-18
Pastor Caleb Kang

Pain

Dread *it*

Avoid *it*

Eliminate *it*

Dread *him/her*

Avoid *him/her*

Eliminate *him/her*

Quit

Pain is the **reason** for
quitting

**Pain always draws
attention to **itself****

**Pain always draws
attention to itself**

Lose perspective

We are **afflicted** in every way but not crushed; we are **perplexed** but not in despair; we are **persecuted** but not abandoned; we are **struck down** but not destroyed.

2 Corinthians 4:8-9 CSB

**We always carry the death of Jesus
in our body, so that the life of Jesus
may also be displayed in our body.**

2 Corinthians 4:10 CSB

So then, death is at work in **us**, but
life in **you**.

2 Corinthians 4:12 CSB

Indeed, everything is for **your benefit** so that, as grace extends through **more and more people**, it may cause thanksgiving to increase to the glory of God.

2 Corinthians 4:15 CSB

Promotion

God uses our pain to
prepare us for
promotion

How can we continue in ministry despite our pain so that we don't quit before experiencing God's promotion?

1

Don't **underestimate** the
power of **one**

Now we have this **treasure** in **clay**
jars, so that this extraordinary
power may be from God and not
from us.

2 Corinthians 4:10 CSB

Who is that **one person** you still
don't see as God's provision
for your ministry *yet?*

How can we continue in ministry despite our pain so that we don't quit before experiencing God's promotion?

2

Focus on what God is doing **in** you, not what is happening **around** you.

Therefore **we do not give up**. Even though our outer person is being destroyed, our **inner person is being renewed** day by day.

2 Corinthians 4:15 CSB

**During abundant seasons, we
celebrate the fruit**

**During painful seasons, we
celebrate becoming like Jesus**

How can we continue in ministry despite our pain so that we don't quit before experiencing God's promotion?

3

Keep your eyes on the
prize, not the path

Path becomes irrelevant
if the prize is glorious

During the **painful season**,
the only thing that keeps
us on the path is the **prize**.

For our **momentary light** affliction is producing for us an absolutely incomparable **eternal** weight of glory.

2 Corinthians 4:17 CSB

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.

2 Corinthians 4:18 CSB

Path is temporary,
Prize is eternal

Pain is temporary,
Testimony is eternal

Applications

1

Don't underestimate the power of one

2

Focus on what God is doing, not what is happening around you

3

Keep your eyes on the prize not the path