

**TITLE AND NUMBER:** 188. Much more to life



**REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S):** 2 Corinthians 4:13-18

It is written: 'I believed; therefore I have spoken.' Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

**LOOKING FURTHER:** Romans 8:26-28; 2 Corinthians 11:23-28

### What does this Bible passage tell us?

The writer, Paul, encourages the believers that we should be hopeful despite the many difficulties that life may bring. He offers the Christian perspective on suffering, perseverance and the eternal hope found in Christ.

Life can be a rollercoaster of experiences. Moments of joy and triumph can be quickly followed by hardship and suffering. We can have unwavering confidence in the power of God and His ability to sustain us through all circumstances (v13). Despite trials and challenges, we are told to hold firm to our faith, trusting in the goodness and faithfulness of God to ensure the best outcome (Romans 8:28). Often the challenges we face, while seemingly personal, ultimately serve a greater purpose. They can lead others to experience God's grace in a deeper way, bringing forth thankfulness and ultimately glorifying God.

Life's difficulties can be overwhelming at times, but they are described as 'light and momentary' (v17). They are like a passing storm compared to the vastness of eternal peace (bliss). What we can learn from this passage is: 'Do not lose heart' (v16).

In conclusion, we must fix our eyes on the unseen realities of God's Kingdom. As we meditate on this truth, may we be strengthened in our faith, encouraged in our trials and filled with hope for the glory that awaits us in Christ.

### Reflections:

- Read Romans 8:26-28 - the route to help us during difficult times is to spend time in prayer.
- See the bigger picture - the challenges you are facing may be part of something larger than yourself.
- Maintain a long-term perspective to life - difficulties are temporary, but God's love and grace last for ever!

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.

**DO NOT**   
**LOSE HEART**

Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

