

DEFEATING DISCOURAGEMENT

Rethinking Your Life Rick Warren

"Moses told the people of Israel what the Lord had said, but they refused to listen anymore. <u>They had become too discouraged</u> by the brutality of their slavery." Exodus 6:9 (NLT)

(David) "Why am I <u>so discouraged</u>? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God!" Psalm 42:5 (NLT)

PAUL'S 7 SECRETS OF DEFEATING DISCOURAGEMENT

2 Corinthians 4:1-18

1.

"God <u>in his mercy</u> has given us this new way, we never give up."

2 Corinthians 4:1 (NLT)

2.

"We use no trickery, and we do not change the teaching of God. We teach the truth plainly, <u>showing everyone who we are</u>. Then they can know in their hearts what <u>kind of people we are in God's sight.</u>" 2 Corinthians 4:2 (NCV)

3.

"Our message is not about ourselves. It is about Jesus Christ as the Lord. We are your servants for his sake." 2 Corinthians 4:5 (GW)

4.

"We are <u>like clay jars</u> in which this treasure is stored. The real power comes from God and not from us." 2 Corinthians 4:7 (CEV)

5.

"We often suffer, but we are never crushed. Even when we don't know what to do, we never give up. In times of trouble, God is with us, and when we are knocked down, we get up again." 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 (CEV)

"<u>These sufferings of ours are for your benefit</u>. And the more of you who are won to Christ, the more there are to thank him for his great kindness, and the more the Lord is glorified." 2 Corinthians 4:15 (TLB)

"That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day." 2 Corinthians 4:16 (NLT)

7.

6.

"Our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever." 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (NLT)

"Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end. <u>He did not give up because of the cross</u>! On the contrary, <u>because of the joy that was waiting for him</u>, he thought nothing of the disgrace of dying on the cross, and he is now seated at the right side of God's throne."

Hebrews 12:2 (GNT)

"Let us <u>not get tired</u> of doing what is right, for <u>after a while</u> we will reap a harvest of blessing <u>if we don't get discouraged</u> and give up." Galatians 6:9 (TLB)

Next Steps

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