

## A Persevering Heart

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

Confidently \_\_\_\_\_ with an aim to persuade others to know, love, and live for Jesus.

Trust the power of \_\_\_\_\_ to pierce the darkness of blind minds and hearts.

2 Corinthians 4:7-15

Demonstrate the \_\_\_\_\_ when ministry gets difficult.

Trust \_\_\_\_\_ to empower you to give of yourself for the good of others.

Keep \_\_\_\_\_ and keep \_\_\_\_\_, even through trouble, for the glory of God.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Confidently \_\_\_\_\_ as you faithfully pursue eternal glory.

Keep your eyes fixed on what is \_\_\_\_\_

## Personal observations from the message.

1. How would you summarize what you learned in a sentence or two?
2. What was something you didn't know or were reminded of?
3. What point or verse did you find most helpful? Why?
4. What is a question you have?
5. What is an action step you will take?

## Discussion questions from the message.

1. What does it mean to lose heart? What kinds of things in everyday life can cause us to lose heart? Why might the work of ministry cause us to lose heart?
2. Read 2 Corinthians 4:1-6. When things are not going well in church, what kinds of things can we be tempted to turn to? What might be some examples of "disgraceful and underhanded ways?" How might we "tamper with God's Word?" Why won't these work? What is the real problem (v. 4)? What will address the real needs of people (v.5-6)? What implications does this have for the ministry of the church?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-12. What is the treasure we have? What is the significance of seeing ourselves as clay jars? How would you summarize what Paul is saying in verse 8-9? What are the two "so that" statements in verse 10 and 11? What does this mean? Why is this significant?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 4:13-15. What is the hope that is motivating Paul? Why is this so significant? What is the ultimate goal Paul is pursuing (v. 15)?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. The chapter begins and ends with "we do not lose heart." Why not? How is our inner-self renewed day by day? How does an eternal perspective reshape the way we deal with our current problems? What must we keep our eyes focused on? What does this mean? How do we do it?
6. What are you facing that tempts you to lose heart? What are some practical steps you can take (from this passage) to help you press on?