

Biblical Principles

1. **II Corinthians 4:7-18:** But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. 8 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. 10 We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. 11 For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body. 12 So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you. 13 It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." {[13] Psalm 116:10} With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak, 14 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 in his presence. 15 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. 16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

✓ Biblical Principles:

- Verses 7-9: God's strength and power is what delivers us from the daily difficulties we experience in life rather than any strength or feelings or ability we have in our self.
- Verses 10-15: The trials and difficulties in our life can actually be the avenue to bringing spiritual life to others
- Verses 16-18: Despite the great daily difficulties we experience, we can have hope. This comes by fixing our hearts, motives, desires and actions on things of eternal value (those things we can't see). As part of this process we need to take our eyes off the things of this world.

✓ Biblical Actions

- What things in this world am I clinging to for my comfort?
- What things have I prioritized ahead of my relationship to God

✓ Biblical Result

- We gain hope
- We gain strength in the midst of difficult times
- We see other peoples lives impacted for good
- We demonstrate eternal glory
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