2 Corinthians 4:16-18 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.

****How can keep from losing heart? How can Paul remain patient in the midst of difficulties and pain? What makes him able to say that physically I'm wasting away... but inwardly and spiritually I'm growing and being strengthened? The answer is seen in verse 18 where he says - I focus on God and the eternal rather than myself and the physical.

In <u>Future Grace</u> John Piper comments on these verses. Patience is "...deepening, ripening, peaceful willingness to wait for God in the Unplanned place of obedience, and to walk with God at the unplanned pace of obedience - to wait in his place and to go at his pace. ...Patience is the capacity to 'wait and to endure' without murmuring and disillusionment..." (pg. 171, 172)

Prayer: Lord, help me to trust Your pace and Your Place. Help me to be confident in You, and Your Love and Grace towards me. Help me to sense Your renewing Power and energy in my life today.

Pastor Mark Kieft