



Scripture:

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-18

Key Question:

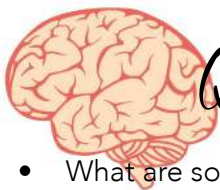
What hope do we have in the midst of suffering?



Questions Every Time:

Reflect on these five questions and the deeper thinking questions in whatever order is most helpful for learning!

CONTEXT	COMPREHENSION	EVALUATION	DEEP THINKING	APPLICATION
What else do we need to know to best understand this passage?	What's this passage saying? [face value]	What does this passage teach us? ...about God? life? ourselves?	How is this different from what the world teaches?	If you applied what you learn from this passage, how would your life look different?



Questions For Deeper Thinking:

- What are some of the different reasons people give for suffering?
- What are some ways we see our "outer self wasting away" as it says in verse 16?
- What might the difference be between general suffering and "suffering for the sake of Christ"?
- How have you or someone you love experienced suffering first hand—whether physical, emotional, relational, psychological, or for the sake of Christ?
- According to verses 16-18, what is happening in the background while our outer self is wasting away?
- Why might Paul say "so we do not lose heart"—what does it mean to lose heart? Why does Paul's message give us the ability to say that we do not lose heart?
- Why does he call suffering "light and momentary" when most suffering feels drawn out & weighty?
- What is Paul talking about when he says we're being prepared for "an eternal weight of glory"? What are the unseen things might be referring to in verse 18?
- How do these verses offer YOU hope and comfort in your current or future suffering?

SONG

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL | JEREMY RIDDLE (lyrics, Horatio Spafford)

QUOTE

"He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." —Jim Elliot