

# We Never Give Up

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*2 Corinthians 4*

# *Relational Tensions*

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The church at Corinth accused Paul:

- “You never visit us.”
- “You have to work a second job.”
- “You’re not a great communicator.”
- “You’re too bossy.”
- “You’re weak—all bark and no bite.”
- “You’re in it for the money.”

# *The Perfect Recipe*

Relational tensions with those you love

- + physical hardships / chronic pain
- + consistent rejection by many
- + hatred from your enemies
- + financial pressures
- + constant church responsibilities

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DISCOURAGEMENT

# *How Do You Keep from Losing Heart?*

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2. is all about him, not you (verses 2-6).

# *Some parts of the good news turn off hearers:*

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- The Bible is true and authoritative.
- God is your creator and judge.
- You're a rebel against God by nature who can't do anything to save yourself.
- Jesus is God-become-man, Earth's appointed king, and the only way to God.
- Those who trust Jesus must show it.
- Those who reject Jesus face eternal hell.

# *Distort the message? No.*

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- Verses 3-4, If people don't like the message, it's because they're spiritually blind. That's why they can't perceive that Jesus is so beautiful and necessary.
- Verse 5, Don't get it backwards. Your life is about Jesus, not you. He's Lord, and you're his servant.
- Verse 6, When we speak the undiluted message and exalt Jesus, God will miraculously open the eyes of some.

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3. should look like the cross (verses 7-15).



# *How Do You Keep from Losing Heart?*

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*God's power is most evident in  
apparent human weakness.*

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1. is a privilege (verse 1).
2. is all about him, not you (verses 2-6).
3. should look like the cross (verses 7-15).
4. will be worth it all (verses 16-18).

# Paul's main point in 2 Corinthians 4

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To keep persevering  
in the face of discouragement,  
you must remember that  
serving Jesus is a privilege,  
that it's all about Jesus not you,  
that it's supposed to look like the cross,  
and that it will be worth it all.