

**Text:** 2 Corinthians 1:8-10; 4:17-5:1

### **The Reality of Present Trials (2 Cor. 1:8-10)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ marks the present (Jn. 16:33)
  
- No living in \_\_\_\_\_

### **We Live by Faith (2 Cor. 5:7)**

- We must fix our attention on \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Faith in the \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Faith in a \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor. 15:51-58)

### **Living by Faith Changes Today**

- This is not \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Faith's perspective sees the present differently (Jas. 4:14)
  
- Faith sees the \_\_\_\_\_ of present troubles

## Life Enrichment

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What about today's sermon challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- Life is full of “finish lines.” Which “finish line” would you say has been most enjoyable – graduation, getting your dream job, becoming an empty-nester, watching your children succeed, buying your dream house, retirement, etc.?
- What is the one thing you are presently looking forward to? Why is it important to have a goal or hope?
- What is the difference between Paul's teaching in 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 and a philosophy of positive thinking?
- Why is it unhealthy to live in denial about our present troubles?
- What does it mean to “live by faith and not by sight” (2 Cor. 5:7)? What are we supposed to put our faith in?
- How does “living by faith” change our perspective and actions?
- Is Paul encouraging Christians toward escapism in 2 Corinthians 4:17-18? Why, or Why not?
- What are the benefits of present troubles?