

Text: 2 Corinthians 4:13-18

The Faith that Sustains Us in Hardship (4:13-15)

- The _____ of faith that sustains us in hardship (v. 13).
- The _____ of sustaining faith (v. 14).
- The _____ of sustaining faith (v. 15).

Sustaining Faith has a Future Orientation (4:16-18)

- The stark difference between _____ (v. 16).
- _____ what matters (v. 17).
- The Christian life's _____ (v. 18).

Life Enrichment

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

- What type of running would characterize your life – a marathon, a 5k, a sprint? Or is your life more of a leisurely stroll?
- Why is long-distance running an apt image of life?
- Take some time to read Psalm 116. How does king David describe his hardship? What does the king do to stabilize his life? How does God respond?
- Why do you think Paul chooses to quote Psalm 116:10 in 2 Corinthians 4:13? What does Paul's faith motivate him to speak about?
- How does God work in and through Christian suffering?
- Why is the future resurrection a such an important aspect of Paul's faith? How does it help him keep perspective, persevere in ministry, and endure suffering?
- Why do you think we don't hear more about persevering faith in the Church today? How might a better understanding of this vital topic help modern believers?
- What is the difference between "outward" and "inward"? According to Paul, which is more important?
- How do life's hardships help us develop healthy priorities and maintain a proper life's focus?