

August 1, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

2 Cor. 4:16 *Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. (NIV)*

One of the blessings of the LORD is that He is always with us, no matter what. Will He be with you in the trials of life? Absolutely! Will He walk beside us and be our guide when we feel lost and alone? No doubt! Will He comfort us when we are hurting? He will!

Paul is sharing with the Corinthian congregation that he is being beaten down outwardly. He has been incarcerated, scourged, taunted, stoned, thrown out to sea. Over and over, he has been through trials and struggles. Now I dare say that most of us have not even begun to taste the affliction that Paul faced on a daily basis. But in many ways, we too face struggles and trials. They will continue to come. We live in a fallen and sinful world. And the evil one hates us. He will constantly try to trip us up, ruin our testimony and throw continual doubts in our way. Let me encourage you today with two of the best words in all of scripture: **but God**. Just read through a few of these verses and let them sink into your soul.

1 Cor. 10:13 *No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to man. But God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. (NIV)*

1 Cor. 3:6 *I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. (NIV)*

Acts 13:29-30 *When they had carried out all that was written about Him, they took Him down from the cross and laid Him in a tomb. But God raised Him from the dead. (NIV)*

Mt. 19:26 *Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible. (NIV)*

Ps. 73:26 *My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (NIV)*

Dear LORD, we were lost, but God, You saved us. We were hopeless, but God, You gave us all hope through Jesus Christ. We were lost, but with You, we are now found. Praise You LORD! In Jesus Name, Amen