

DON'T GROW WEARY

John the Baptist displays what many of us go through do to the uncertainties of Life - Matt 11:2-6 - 2 When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples 3 to ask him, "**Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?**" 4 Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: 5 The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. 6 **Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me.**"

Using the Word for encouragement - Isa 29:18-19 - 18 In that day the deaf will hear the words of the scroll, and out of gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind will see. 19 Once more the humble will rejoice in the Lord; the needy will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

When we come to Jesus, we are offered rest from this weary life, but we must do it right - Matt 11:28-30 - 28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and **I will give you rest**. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

If we are not alert, just being a Christian can wear us out - Gal 6:8-10 - 8 The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9 **LET US NOT BECOME WEARY** in doing good, for **at the proper time we will reap a harvest IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP**. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

What we need to do in order not to grow weary

Seek the right type of encouragement - Ps 119:28 My soul is weary with sorrow; **strengthen me ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD**.

Stay focused on Jesus - Heb 12:2-3 - 2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 **Consider him** who endured such opposition from sinful men, **SO THAT you will not grow weary and lose heart**.

Look forward to & grow in trials - James 1:2-4 - 2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 4 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

We need one another in TRUE Spiritual encouragement in order to keep us from growing weary - Heb 3:13-14 - 13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. 14 We have come to share in Christ **IF we hold firmly till the end** the confidence we had at first.

There are going to be Christians that are not living like Christians and we must disconnect in order to warn them, not to punish them - 2 Thess 3:10-15 - 10 For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. 11 For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. 12 Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. 13 As for you, brothers, **do not grow weary in doing good**. 14 **If anyone does not obey what we say in this letter, take note of that person**, and have nothing to do with him, **that he may be ashamed**. 15 **Do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother**. ESV

We chose not to lose heart in our ministries by completely focusing on Christ and the things of Christ ONLY - 2 Cor 4:13-18 - 13 It is written: "**I BELIEVED**; therefore I have spoken." With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak, 14 because **WE KNOW** that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence. 15 All this is for your benefit, **so that** the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. 16 **THEREFORE WE DO NOT LOSE HEART**. **Though** outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes NOT ON what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

At times we will feel as though God is not there and that God is not listening we get to the point where we will feel distressed deep in our soul - Ps 77:1-9 - I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me. 2 When I was in distress, I sought the Lord; at night I stretched out untiring hands and **my soul refused to be comforted**. 3 I remembered you, O God, and I groaned; I mused, and my spirit grew faint. ^{Selah} 4 You kept my eyes from closing; I was too troubled to speak. 5 I thought about the former days, the years of long ago; 6 I remembered my songs in the night. My heart mused and my spirit inquired: 7 **"Will the Lord reject forever? Will he never show his favor again? 8 Has his unfailing love vanished forever? Has his promise failed for all time? 9 Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has he in anger withheld his compassion?"**

We must think on God AS GOD for comfort- Ps 77:10-20 - 10 **Then I thought**, "To this I will appeal: the years of the right hand of the Most High." 11 **I will remember the deeds of the Lord**; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago. →

→ 12 I will meditate on all your works and consider all your mighty deeds. 13 Your ways, O God, are holy. What god is so great as our God? 14 You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples. 15 With your mighty arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. ^{Selah} 16 The waters saw you, O God, the waters saw you and writhed; the very depths were convulsed. 17 The clouds poured down water, the skies resounded with thunder; your arrows flashed back and forth. 18 Your thunder was heard in the whirlwind, your lightning lit up the world; the earth trembled and quaked. 19 Your path led through the sea, your way through the mighty waters, though your footprints were not seen. 20 You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.