The Bridge Bible Fellowship January 31st, 2021 Pastor Randy Leinen

> "Don't Lose Heart" 2 Cor 4:16-18

Introduction:

v.16 – Spiritual _____

v.17 – Spiritual _____

v.18 – Spiritual _____

Application: (see discussion questions page)

Discussion Questions

1. Think of a person you know who has suffered much in their life. How do their sufferings compare with Paul's sufferings? How well have they responded to their sufferings?

Questions related to v.16

- 2. What happens if a person is more concerned with their inner man, than their outer man? Which one are you more concerned with? Why and in what manner?
- 3. Assuming you are a born again Christian, have you been able to see the renewal and growth in your inner man? In what ways?
- 4. Challenge: try reading verse 16 to an unbeliever or two (or fifty) and find out what their response is to Paul's statement.

Questions related to v.17

- 5. What happens if a Christian thinks more about the troubles in their life than what God has promised them in the future? Is this something you have struggled with in the past, and if so how did this affect you?
- 6. Do you really believe that v.17 is true, meaning that the afflictions that Paul is talking about are so insignificant in the end? Explain with more than just a "yes" or "no" answer.
- 7. God has revealed many things about the future of all men. On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being the least), how much do you know about what the Bible teaches regarding future things? Do you think your lack of knowledge has any effect on your ability to not lose hope in the midst of suffering?
- 8. Challenge: try reading verse 17 to an unbeliever or two (or fifty) and find out what their response is to Paul's statement.

Questions related to v.18

- 9. What happens if a person is more concerned with things that are seen, than the things that are unseen? Which one are you more concerned with? Why and in what manner? (For a scriptural example of this study Ecclesiastes 1-2)
- 10. List as many categories as you can of the things that are seen?
- 11. List as many categories as you can of the things that are unseen?
- 12. If you knew that you only had one month to live what kinds of things would you focus on? Are any of the things in that list things that you are not focusing on right now, but you know you should?