

Daily Devotion For March 24, 2023

⁸ We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰ We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹ For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. ¹² So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you." 2 Corinthians 4:8-12

When I think of our church family, I see that many people are going through times of trials and adversity. At times like this, it is often easy to lose our perspective. We may act like "Chicken Little" who thought that the sky was falling when an acorn fell on his head. As Paul traveled from town to town proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel, he often faced opposition and persecution. Read the words of 2 Corinthians 4:8-12 and you can see how he responded to his trials. Despite the hard times, Paul never complained or felt abandoned and looked to Jesus to be his example for strength.

Thought For Today: Think about the ways you have been discouraged or perplexed in your Christian life? In what ways can Paul's perspective help you through these difficult times? How can you encourage others who are discouraged by life's trials?

Today's Prayer Focus: Who does the Lord bring to mind when you think of someone who is in need of encouragement? Take time to pray for them now. Deo Volente.