

The Sticky Stuff: Sticking Together through Discouragement

By Brett Hilliard, June 15, 2025

7-Fold Strategy to Dismantle Discouragement:

Since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.

2 Corinthians 4:1 NIV

1. **Make much of God's** mercy in your life ✓ .

Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God.

2 Corinthians 4:2 NIV

2. **Grow in your comfort level** with who you are ✓ . **Be real.**

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as servants for Jesus' sake.

2 Corinthians 4:5 NIV

3. **Combat your tendency to make** life about you ✓ .

We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

2 Corinthians 4:7 NIV

4. **Embrace your** limitations ✓ .

For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:10 ESV

We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

2 Corinthians 4:8-9 NIV

All this is for your benefit.

2 Corinthians 4:15 NIV

5. **Leverage your** pain ✓ **for a greater good.**

Outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.
2 Corinthians 4:16 NIV

6. Renew ☒ yourself daily.

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NIV

7. Discipline yourself to see the unseen ☒.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Identify one relationship in your life that could use some work.
2. What is one aspect of today's message that could assist you in bringing better health to that relationship?