

A  **CENTRAL** SERIES  
ASSEMBLY

# GRITTY SPIRITUALITY

2 CORINTHIANS



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# GRITTY SPIRITUALITY

DON'T LOSE HEART



**<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since through God's mercy  
we have this ministry,  
we do not lose heart.**

**2 CORINTHIANS 4:1**



**WE DON'T LOSE HEART BECAUSE...**

**Our battle is spiritual, not personal**



## 2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-4

<sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup> The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.



- **We don't need to take opposition and setbacks personally**



- **We don't need to take opposition and setbacks personally**
- **We get to keep leaning on the work of the Holy Spirit**



**WE DON'T LOSE HEART BECAUSE...**

**Our battle is spiritual, not personal**

**It's OK to be frail**



## 2 CORINTHIANS 4:6–7

<sup>6</sup> For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ. <sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.



“The church was never meant to be a china cabinet, where precious pieces could be safely stowed out of harm's way. The church was meant to be a working kitchen, where well-worn pots are filled again and again to dispense their life-giving contents to a thirsty world.”

— BRYAN WILKERSON, “UNBREAKABLE?”



**7 ...This all-surpassing power is from  
God and not from us.**

**2 CORINTHIANS 4:7B**



- **The pressure is not on us to be impressive**



- **The pressure is not on us to be impressive**
- **God's greatness makes our insecurities irrelevant**



**WE DON'T LOSE HEART BECAUSE...**

**Our battle is spiritual, not personal**

**It's OK to be frail**

**Giving up is not an option**



**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.**

**2 CORINTHIANS 4:8–9**



“I would say, ‘Dad, you say I’m no genius. I won’t argue with that. You know plenty of people who are smarter than I am.’ I can imagine his head nodding in sober agreement.

– ANGELA DUCKWORTH, “GRIT: THE POWER OF PASSION AND PERSEVERANCE”



“But let me tell you something. I’m going to grow up to love my work as much as you love yours. I won’t just have a job; I’ll have a calling. I’ll challenge myself every day. When I get knocked down, I’ll get back up. I may not be the smartest person in the room, but I’ll strive to be the grittiest.”

– ANGELA DUCKWORTH, “GRIT: THE POWER OF PASSION AND PERSEVERANCE”



“And if he was still listening: ‘In the long run,  
Dad, grit may matter more than talent.’”

– ANGELA DUCKWORTH, “GRIT: THE POWER OF PASSION AND PERSEVERANCE”



## HEBREWS 12:1B-2

<sup>1</sup> ...And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.



**WE DON'T LOSE HEART BECAUSE....**

**Our battle is spiritual, not personal**

**It's OK to be frail**

**Giving up is not an option**

**We have an eternal perspective**



## 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16–17

<sup>16</sup> Therefore **we do not lose heart**. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an **eternal** glory that far outweighs them all.



“There is a chasm between the vast scope of our needs and what influencers can provide. We’re looking for guidance in the wrong places... I have hardly prayed to God since I was a teenager, but the pandemic has cracked open inside me a profound yearning for reverence, humility and awe...”

– LEIGH STEIN, NEW YORK TIMES



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## 2 CORINTHIANS 4:18

<sup>18</sup> 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.



