

# CRUCIAL

W H A T M A T T E R S M O S T

*Accompanies podcast "Point" - 2/20/22  
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## **Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-18**

In verses 8 and 9, Paul presents a series of contrasts. What do you see as the difference between the descriptions on the one side (hard-pressed, perplexed, persecuted, struck down) with those on the other side (crushed, in despair, abandoned, destroyed)?

Compare this passage with 2 Corinthians 1:8. How does this verse enhance or expand our reading of the verses in chapter 4?

Paul indicates that as we go through suffering, we have the opportunity to also encounter the risen Christ in it. Can you think of an example from your own experience where you have seen that?

Paul indicated the Corinthians could benefit from his hardships. Is there a time when you have witnessed the connectedness of the body of Christ through suffering?

Paul describes our renewal as happening "day by day." In other words, it is something happening in real time and not just when we get to heaven. In what ways do you feel you have been made new in the midst of this challenging season?