Do Not Lose Heart: My Part

Ken Chapman · 2 Corinthians 4:1–16

INTRODUCTION

- Have you ever given up? Have you ever given up on something? Or someone.
- Paul says, though we face challenges and struggles and temptations and discouragements, we do not lose heart. That's a poetic way of saying we don't give up.
- What is your part in making sure that you don't give up.

1 Be Positive

1 Corinthians 15:58; Hebrews 12:12–15

- Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.
- In other words, he's saying, be positive. Consider the outcome of what you're doing.
- Lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble by which many have become defiled.
- One of the first warnings that you're going to fall away is bitterness. Becoming negative. That you can only see the bad in something.
- You don't see all of that clean whiteboard that surrounds it. All you see is the mark.

2 Be Involved

1 Corinthians 15:58; Hebrews 12:18–24

- So one key to not losing heart, to not giving up is to be involved. Be a part of the work of the Lord.
- You've come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, to the heavenly Jerusalem, to the innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and the church of the firstborn, who are registered in heaven.
- Remember the mountain that you've come to. And remember what you're a part of.
- You're a part of something big and grand and noble and holy.
- One of the other warning signs is that we're not involved. That we live our Christianity on the outskirts, in the periphery.

3 Be Active

1 Corinthians 15:58; Hebrews 12:1–2

- Now there's a difference between involved and active. Now, one necessitates the other, but there's a difference.
- Abounding carries with it this idea of going above and beyond.
- The Christian never has the attitude. Never asks the question, what's the least I can do?
- Let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily ensnares us. And let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

- You can't read Hebrews 11 and 12 and come away with the understanding that Christianity is some kind of passive relationship.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Will you do your part? And can I ask you this? Will you help me do my part? Will you help me to stay positive and involved and active?**

MY NOTES