

Introduction:

1. The most powerful weapon on earth – a focused mind.
2. The focus of a Christian keeps us strong and going.

Proposition: Proper focus on the eternal gives Christians strong endurance.

Interrogative: What is the proper focus?

-- The proper focus of a Christian is... --

I. OUR DAILY RENEWAL

A. KEEPS US FROM LOOSING HEART

1. Satan throws all types of trouble our way -cf. 2Co 4:7-10.
2. The outward man is perishing. This fact is revealed in two different senses:
 - a. The body growing older
 - b. The body suffering from persecution (as in the case of Paul) -11:22-33

B. KEEPS US FOCUSED ON THE INWARD MAN

1. We are renewed through the word of God -Jn 14:1-4
2. We are renewed through the avenue of prayer -1Pe 5:7; Mt 6:8
3. We are renewed through our fellowship -He 10:23-25

II. THE ETERNAL WEIGHT OF GLORY

A. OUR LIGHT AFFLICTION

1. Some of our trials are based solely upon the human factor.
2. Others, however, are because of our faith in God. (ie. Exclusion, or mockery)

B. GREAT REWARD FOR ENDURANCE

1. Jesus preached – Mt 5:11-12, Re 2:10
2. Paul discussed at the very end of his life -2Ti 4:6-8
3. The great cloud of witnesses –Heb 12:1, 2

III. THE THINGS WHICH ARE NOT SEEN

A. THINGS SEEN ARE TEMPORARY

1. The trials and persecutions we face are temporary.
2. Secondary application: The joys and pleasures of earth that distract are also temporary.

B. THINGS NOT SEEN ARE ETERNAL

1. We know where we are going – 2Co 5:7, Ph 3:20
2. Our focus is on higher things – Co 3:2
3. Your car goes in the direction you are looking in.

Conclusion:

When we focus on the invisible...

We renew every day, we endure all things, and we can see the blessings God has in store for us at the end of life's way.