



# Daily Reflections

**July 25, 2017**

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## Scripture

### **2 Corinthians 4: 7-15**

Brothers and sisters:

We hold this treasure in earthen vessels,  
that the surpassing power may be of God and not from us.

We are afflicted in every way, but not constrained;  
perplexed, but not driven to despair;

persecuted, but not abandoned;

struck down, but not destroyed;

always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus,  
so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body.

For we who live are constantly being given up to death  
for the sake of Jesus,

so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Since, then, we have the same spirit of faith,

according to what is written, I believed, therefore I spoke,

we too believe and therefore speak,

knowing that the one who raised the Lord Jesus

will raise us also with Jesus

and place us with you in his presence.

Everything indeed is for you,

so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people  
may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

# **Our Scripture Reflection**

In today's text, Paul teaches the Corinthians that the Good News they had received was no cheap Grace. It was given to them as the result of suffering and hardship. Paul has tremendous hope that they will take what they have received and produce abundant fruit.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Hope is definitely not the same thing as optimism. It is not the conviction that something will turn out well, but the certainty that something makes sense, regardless of how it turns out.

--Vaclav Havel, dissident, playwright and former President of the Czech Republic.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Many great saints experienced tremendous hardships in order to pass on the Gospel to me. May I never take for granted Your Holy Word and may I live it to the fullest each day. Amen.