



Sermon Study Questions
Week of September 25, 2011

The Crossing
“It’s Always Too Soon To Quit”

Pastor Bob Botsford

Message available at www.horizon.org/archive

Main Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:1-18

Referenced Scripture: Psalm 40, Psalm 46:1, Acts 18:9-10, 1 Chronicles 4:9-10, Psalm 30:5b

OPEN:

1. What in particular spoke to you from Pastor Bob’s message?
2. We all want to connect with God, but without the difficulty. Possible or not possible? Explain.

DIG DEEPER:

1. **2 Corinthians 4:1** is great encouragement to us in that we need not lose heart when we know God is still sovereign over our lives and circumstances. Why do people want to quit when inconvenience, discomfort, and failure are present?
2. In what way does **2 Corinthians 4:6** remind us whatever it is in our lives, it is too soon to quit. Knowing trouble is inevitable, how then is misery optional for us?
3. How does **2 Corinthians 4:7** teach us what we are called to do and be? What is the significance of “*this treasure*” being “*in earthen vessels*” rather than gold chests as related to who is being exalted?
4. Paul’s message to us in **2 Corinthians 4:7-15** is that “attitude effects altitude”, meaning his purpose was bigger than his problems. In what way does this challenge you?
5. Why is it so important for our purpose to be established early? Why do we tend to pursue the things of this world over first establishing our purpose?
6. In **1 Chronicles 4:9-10** we find that Jabez let praise to be his leader (Judah, meaning praise always went first into battle), let praise be his warrior (praise always puts the hurt on the devil), and let praise be his destiny (course). How can these important principles be applied into your own life?

REFLECT:

1. How have you seen responses to adversity, even to the point of crisis, in the lives of others that breathed hope into your own life?
2. What has the Lord shown you through Pastor Bob’s message and this study about not losing heart, regardless of the circumstances?

MEMORY VERSE:

2 Corinthians 4:16

*“Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing,
yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.”*