



SERMON TITLE: ADAPTING WITHOUT LOSING VISION

Managing Life's Challenges with Divine Perspective – Pastor Alton Trimble

Sunday, September 6, 2026

BIBLE DECLARATION

This is my Bible
It is the word of my God
I am what it says I am
I can do what it says that I can do
I will have everything that the Word of God says that I can have
Today, I will hear the Word
It will transform my heart
It will renew my mind
It's being done by the ever-living,
Always loving, incorruptible
Indestructible, infallible
And inerrant Word of my God
So, Word of God, live big in me today and every day.
In Jesus, Name. Amen

Philippians 4:13 (NASB1995)

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

2 Corinthians 4:16–18 (NASB1995)

Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

2 Corinthians 3:16–18 (NASB1995)

But whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. ¹⁸ But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

TWO IMPORTANT TRUTHS:

TRUTH #1: Adaptation is a strategy for successful living.

TRUTH #2: We must develop the capacity to see what is not apparent.

1: ACCEPT THAT LIFE REQUIRES ADAPTATION

Philippians 4:11–13 (NASB1995)

Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. ¹² I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. ¹³ I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

2: DON'T CONFUSE YOUR PLAN WITH GOD'S PURPOSE

Philippians 2:13 (ESV)

...for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Psalms 139:16 (ESV)

Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

Genesis 50:20 (NASB1995)

As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.

3: DEVELOP THE CAPACITY FOR DIVINE PERSPECTIVE

2 Corinthians 4:16–18 (NASB1995)

¹⁶ Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

4: WHAT YOU SEE DEPENDS UPON WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING THROUGH

2 Corinthians 3:16–18 (NASB1995)

¹⁶ but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. ¹⁸ But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

John 16:13 (NASB1995)

But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

5: DON'T JUST ASK GOD TO REMOVE THE CHALLENGE—ASK HIM TO INCREASE YOUR CAPACITY

James 1:2–4 (NASB1995)

² Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

6: SEE WHAT IS NOT APPARENT

2 Kings 6:15–17 (NASB1995)

¹⁵ Now when the attendant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was circling the city. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?” ¹⁶ So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” ¹⁷ Then Elisha prayed and said, “O LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” And the LORD opened the servant's eyes and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

7: FACE THE CHALLENGE AND DEAL WITH WHAT IS IN FRONT OF YOU

When challenges arise, there are four important responses that position us to move forward successfully:

1. Get determined to win in the midst of the crisis.
2. Deal expeditiously with the crisis.
3. Face your challenge with the intention of addressing it.
4. Lead—take charge and accept responsibility.

Nehemiah 4:9 (NASB1995)

But we prayed to our God, and because of them we set up a guard against them day and night.

CLOSING:

Ephesians 3:20-21 (NASB1995)

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, ²¹to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.