It's often best to get straight to the point. Are you facing a trial today? Consider some straight truth from God's Word:

Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone— especially to those in the family of faith.

Galatians 6:7-10

Strangely, in tough times, we're tempted to coil into a ball and hide from others. But God urges a better alternative.

First, *keep going*. Whatever it is you have been given to do, don't quit when the road leads uphill. Keep going. You may grow weary, you might even get winded, but don't stop. *Keep going*.

Second, *reach out*. When we intentionally remove our own problems from the center of our thoughts and focus on others the cloud of discouragement begins to lift. Rather than turning inward, *reach out*.

Finally, *draw close*. There's tremendous value in tough times to pulling up close to fellow believers. God has designed His church to be a family of individuals who support and encourage one another in times of need. So draw in and receive God's goodness through your fellow believers. Your spirit will be refreshed, and you'll find hope to keep going. *Draw close*.

Have you found yourself in the middle of a tough stretch? Keep going . . . reach out . . . draw close.

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