

When It Feels Like Nothing Matters (And Why It Still Does)

There is a question many people carry but rarely say out loud:

Does any of this really matter?

You show up. You work. You try. You give your time and energy to things that feel important. And yet, the results are slow, invisible, or uncertain.

Over time, a quiet suspicion begins to form:

What if it's all for nothing?

That question isn't new.

Nearly two thousand years ago, a group of early Christians in Corinth wrestled with something similar. They lived in a complex, noisy culture filled with competing ideas and constant pressure. Some had begun to question a central belief of their faith: the resurrection.

And that question wasn't just theological.

It was deeply practical.

Because if there is no resurrection—if death has the final word—then everything we do eventually disappears. Effort fades. Memory fades. Impact fades.

In that case, the question becomes unavoidable:

Why keep going?

The Apostle Paul responded with a clear and decisive claim:

Christ is risen.

That statement wasn't meant as a poetic metaphor or a vague spiritual idea. It was presented as a reality that changes everything.

Because if the story doesn't end at death, then what we do in life is not erased.

If there is continuity beyond this moment, then this moment carries weight.

If something is being redeemed, restored, and completed, then nothing done in alignment with that purpose is wasted.

Paul draws the conclusion this way:

Be steadfast. Be unmovable. Always give yourself fully to meaningful work... because your labor is not in vain.

That doesn't mean every effort produces immediate results.

It doesn't mean every act is recognized.

It doesn't mean the work is easy or rewarding in the moment.

It means something deeper:

What is done with purpose, love, and integrity is never truly lost.

We experience this even in small ways.

Anyone who has worked hard on something—only to see the visible result disappear—knows that the effort still shaped them. Skills were formed. Understanding deepened. Character was built.

The external result may vanish, but the internal transformation remains.

That's a hint of a larger truth.

Meaning is not always measured in immediate outcomes. Often, it unfolds over time—sometimes beyond our ability to see it clearly.

So what do we do when discouragement sets in?

We return to what anchors meaning.

We stay grounded when circumstances shift. We resist being pulled in every direction by competing voices. We continue to engage with what matters, even when progress feels slow.

In other words:

Stay steady. Stay focused. Keep going.

Not because everything feels rewarding—

But because not everything that matters is immediately visible.

If there is a larger story unfolding, then this moment is part of it.

And if that is true—

Then your work, your effort, and your persistence are not wasted.