

Do Not Grow Weary in Doing Good

2 Thessalonians 3:13

Paul used the Greek verb *egkakéō* to speak of not *losing heart*. (1 Cor. 4:1, 16; Gal. 6:9; Eph. 3:13)

The Greek compound verb *kalopoiéō*, which comes from the noun *kalós*, meaning *good*, and the verb *poiéō*, meaning *to do*, is found only here in the New Testament. The two words used to make up this compound verb were used by Paul in a similar admonition to the Galatians: “let us not grow weary while doing [*poiéō*] good [*kalós*], for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart” (Gal. 6:9).

There are at least *four* different ways to understand Paul’s admonition in this verse.

First, there are some who take Paul’s admonition not to lose heart in doing good as a general admonition that applies to all of life.

Second, there are some who take Paul’s admonition not to lose heart in doing good as a reference to giving to help support brethren who had no work.

Third, there are some who take Paul’s admonition not to lose heart in doing good as imploring the faithful brethren not to follow the bad example of those who refused to work.

Fourth, there are some who take Paul’s admonition not to lose heart in doing good as referring to the good of church discipline that he has commanded them to do but that he knows will be hard for them to carry out. *This is the best interpretation, since it best fits the focus of the passage.*