

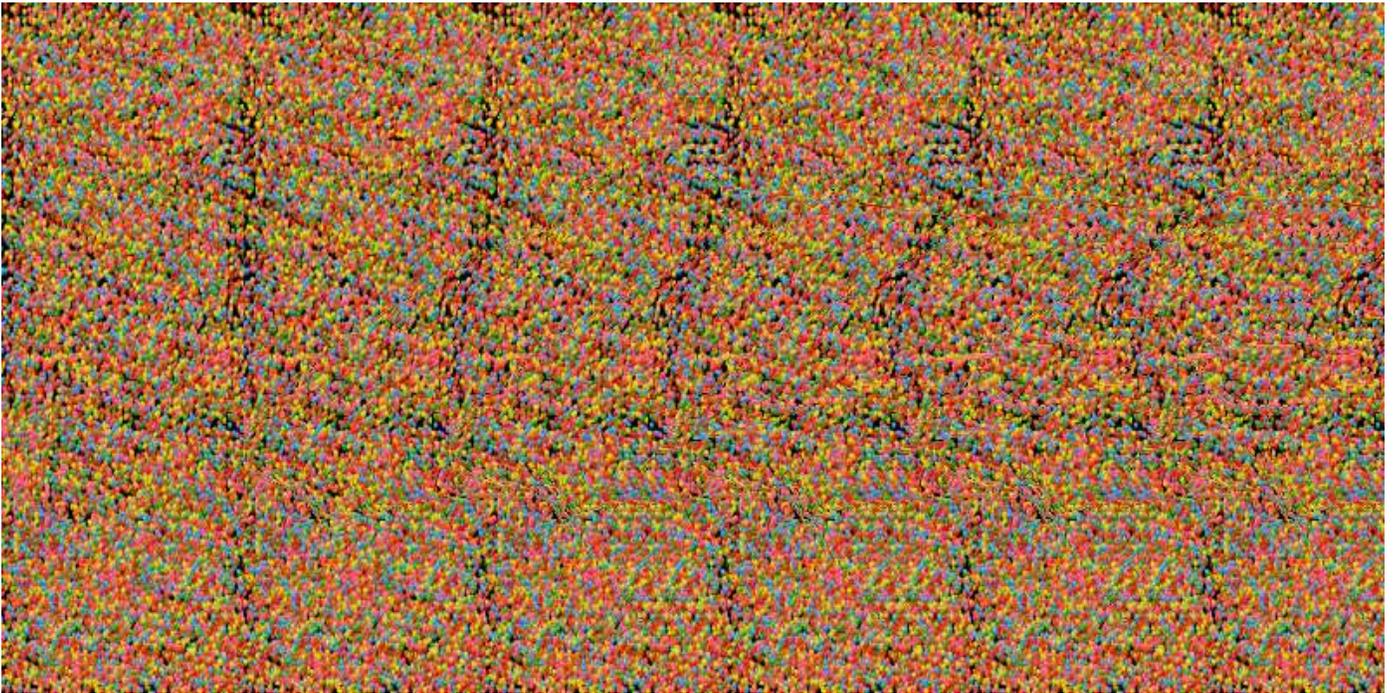
"Lungs and Breath: Inspiration and Exultation" by Rev. John C. Tittle

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 REB

¹⁶No wonder we do not lose heart! Though our outward humanity is in decay, yet day by day we are inwardly renewed. ¹⁷Our troubles are slight and short-lived, and their outcome is an eternal glory which far outweighs them, ¹⁸provided our eyes are fixed, not on the things that are seen, but on the things that are unseen; for what is seen is transient, what is unseen is eternal.

Discussion Questions:

1. What jumps out at you about this passage?
2. Have you ever done an autostereogram before? Well, here's your opportunity. Stare at the image and see if another image jumps out at you. Give it some time.



What did you have to do to see it? After staring at it semi "cross-eyed" an image of a shark appeared, to me at least! Spiritually, sometimes we have to look at things differently to perceive what is going on. How might we "see the unseen" more?

3. Paul encourages us not to lose heart. How might our spiritual gaze (seeing the unseen) help us to be encouraged in hard times?

4. We all go through trials and tribulations in varying degrees in our lives. How does keeping our eternity in our gaze keep our troubles in perspective or the challenges of the aging process? How can the future of eternity help us in the present?

5. What are the "things that are seen" that Paul talks about?

6. What is a way that you can fix your eyes on the unseen in your own life? How about our church?