

Courageously Conquer Our Personal Challenges

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Text: Romans 8:28, 31-32, 35-37

Big Idea: Christ, the glorious conqueror of Satan, Sin, and Death, is in you and with you--if you have accepted Him as your Savior and Lord--to empower you to conquer the challenges of your life.

Introduction:

1. Examples of our personal challenges
2. Prophetic and pastoral teaching on how to conquer the challenges that are common to all of us, regardless of our age, gender, ethnicity, socio-economic profile, or religious condition.

A. First Challenge: **RESTLESSNESS** causing weariness and burnout

PROBLEMS:

1. Restlessness due to **wickedness** (Isaiah 57:14-15)
2. Restlessness due to **workaholicism** (1 Tim. 6:6-10)
A workaholic...
 - a. Chasing more **money**
 - b. Chasing more **power**
 - c. Chasing more **prominence**
 - d. Chasing more **prestige**
 - e. Chasing more **pleasure**

REMEDY:

Jeremiah 9:23-24, Proverbs 30:8-9, Matthew 11:28-29

B. Second Challenge: **RELIGION** without reality (2 Tim. 3:1-5)

PROBLEMS:

1. A form of godliness without **power** (Matt. 5:17-20, 23:1-4, 27-28, 33)
 - a. Form without **faith** in Christ as Savior and Lord
 - b. Form without factual **evidence** of new life in Christ
 - c. Form without a firm **foundation** to stand on
2. Religion with esthetic without **essence**
 - a. Sight and sound without the essence of God's manifest **presence**
 - b. Entertainment without personal **encounter** with God

REMEDY:

Religion with righteousness: 2 Cor. 5:21

C. Third Challenge: **REASSURANCE** in times of crises

1. John the Baptist's reassurance (Matt. 11:2-3)
2. Apostle Paul's reassurance (2 Cor. 12:7-9)

Conclusion:

Tabletalk *(For family devotions and Life Group discussions)*

1. Share your personal challenges that are not confidential and how you are handling them?
2. Restlessness due to over-fatigue that causes weariness and burnout are common today.
 - a. How does wickedness cause restlessness (Isa 57:14-15)?
 - b. What is one major reason for becoming workaholic (1 Tim 6:6-10)?
 - c. How do you apply to yourself this biblical remedies for restlessness (Jer 9:23-24; Prov 30:8-9; Matt. 11:28-29)?
3. What is godliness or religion without reality (2 Tim. 3:1-4); discuss the remedy (2 Cor. 5:21).
4. What encouragement in times of crises can you learn from the experience of John the Baptist (Matt. 11:2-3) and from the experience of the Apostle Paul (2 Cor 12:7-9)?

Share and Pray