

Review:

#1-As best you can, Reconcile to both God and Man

#2-Maintain an attitude of forgiveness

#3-Maintain an attitude of living within God's boundaries (His Word)

#4-Maintain an eternal perspective

The 5th necessity for peace and rest

#5- Maintain a servant's attitude while struggling.

Why?

Because a lot of people become ...

Bewildered-why me concept

Badgered-it's not fair concept

Broken-the body is NOT willing

Battered- life is beating them up with bad news

So how do you find rest in the midst of all of this?

Two key things:

Accept what you can't change & serve others.

That was the attitude of Christ.

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

"He committed no sin,

and no deceit was found in his mouth." When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 1 Peter 2: 21-23

How not to worry when struggling

Do not fret because of those who are evil

or be envious of those who do wrong;

²for like the grass they will soon wither,

like green plants they will soon die away.

³Trust in the Lord and do good;

dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

⁴Take delight in the Lord,

and he will give you the desires of your heart.

⁵Commit your way to the Lord;

trust in him and he will do this:

**⁶He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn,
your vindication like the noonday sun.**

⁷ Be still before the Lord
and wait patiently for him;
do not fret when people succeed in their ways,
when they carry out their wicked schemes.

⁸ Refrain from anger and turn from wrath;
do not fret—it leads only to evil.

⁹ For those who are evil will be destroyed,
but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.

¹⁰ A little while, and the wicked will be no more;
though you look for them, they will not be found.

¹¹ But the meek will inherit the land
and enjoy peace and prosperity

Key points to think about.

1. **Worry is useless because it's**

1. Temporal—"for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away."
2. Hurtful- "Refrain from anger and turn from wrath;"
3. Evil- "do not fret—it leads only to evil."

2. **Four Things we must do to overcome worry (struggling)**

- a. **Trust**-Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.
- b. **Delight**-"Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."
- c. **Commit**- "Commit your way to the Lord;"
- d. **Wait**- "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;"

#6- Discipline your desires

This runs counter to everything the advertisers want us to do

Learning to be content is an ATTITUDE. We must make a commitment to desiring to be CONTENT.

The world has the attitude that includes the statement..."if only I had..." or "if only I hadn't" which really represents an attitude of DISCONTENTMENT

In order to help develop an attitude of contentment we must take steps to avoid the myth of "greener grass" and...

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever. I John 2:15-17

#7-Learn to manage your resources

What resources?

Your calling-

"But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;" I Pet. 1:15

Examples of your calling? (To be set apart-Different)

Being a spouse, a parent, a servant, a minister, a good employee, a good friend, etc....

#7-Learn to manage your resources

Your Convictions- (what are you willing to die for?)

Example: Our faith, family, freedom, etc...

When you live with convictions you usually are a person with peace of mind.

And sometimes this rattles other people's mind. Why?

This requires courage sometimes. Why?

Can you be at peace if having a conviction causes you to lose your job? Friendship?

#7-Learn to manage your resources

Your Capabilities- (talents and money)

From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked. Luke 12:48

What have you been given? What have you been asked to do?

A person who uses their capabilities will be a person at peace.

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much". Luke 16:10

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' Matt. 25:21

Summary:

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#4-Maintain an eternal perspective

#5-Maintain a servant's heart during struggling

#6-Maintain an attitude of disciplining your desires.

#7- Maintain an attitude of managing your resources.