

A Outer restlessness.

- ❖ Jesus taught that we are not worthy if we love them more than we love Him. Jesus is worthy because He gave everything for us (Rev. 5:9). We are worthy if we choose to follow Him above everything.
- ❖ There may be conflict between our close ones and us if they do not make the same decision and try to separate us from Jesus. Then, “a man’s enemies are the men of his own household.” (Micah 7:6)

B Inner restlessness:

❖ **Egoism.**

- Jesus refused to mediate the distribution of an inheritance. He instead delved into the root of restlessness in that case: egoism (Luke 12:13-15).
- He introduced a hypothetical case of a man who only had eyes for himself. That man forgot about God and his neighbors, and lost everything (Luke 12:16-21).
- The biblical antidote for egoism is to be humble like Christ, to serve others, and to put them before ourselves (Philippians 2:5-8; Galatians 5:13; Romans 12:10).

❖ **Ambition.**

- The apostles could not understand the spiritual truths because they were blinded by ambition. They aspired to have a prominent position in the earthly kingdom of the Messiah.
- Jesus placed a child at the center of the group. Then He taught them that they should not covet great things in this life (Matthew 18:1-3).
- We must trust God and depend on Him like a child, and let Him take control of our lives. Jesus has great plans for us. He will help us to abandon our wrong ambitions and to be led by Him.

❖ **Hypocrisy.**

- Jesus used the expression “hypocrites” 14 times in the book of Matthew. He said nothing nice in any of them. Why was Jesus against the hypocrites?
- In the classical Greek culture, a hypocrite was an actor who played a role. Nowadays, a hypocrite is someone who does not appear to be what they really are, or does not act in line with their words.
- Jesus encourages us and gives us the strength we need to live in tune with our faith. This way we will help others to trust Jesus and accept Him.

C Getting rid of restlessness.

- ❖ We have learned that restlessness may be caused by our sinful nature. Also, our faithfulness may lead us to distressing situations. How to find peace in moments of distress?
- ❖ Trust is key. Jesus promised to give us life in its fullness (John 10:10). Let us trust Jesus whenever we are wounded, tired, exhausted, sick, or disheartened. He is the Life (John 14:6).
- ❖ On the other hand, Jesus is preparing a place for us. Once we get there, pain, anxiety, and suffering will no longer be a problem (John 14:2-3; Revelation 21:4).
- ❖ The difficulties of this life fade away when we think of that beautiful promise. We can have hope amidst restlessness.