

May 24 / Sunday

Facing Failure

Read [John 21:13-19](#) and [Jonah 3:1-3](#)



25 / Mon – It happens to all of us | Read [Lamentations 3:22-23](#)

Failure is a part of life. Sometimes it is a small, seemingly inconsequential failure that is very soon forgotten. Other times it is colossal, sending waves crashing into your future. You wonder if you will ever recover. These verses give hope. The Lord knows before you do that you will fail. But His love and compassion never waver. He is able to help you handle any mess you've made, when you ask. Have you experienced this truth in your life? What happened?

26 / Tue – Hope, encouragement, examples, warnings | Read [Romans 15:4/1 Corinthians 10:11](#)

If there is one thing you will learn reading about the lives of famous people in the Bible, it is this: *no one is immune to failure but what you do with that failure determines the final outcome*. It can be a valuable teacher or it can kill your spirit. Do failures from your past still haunt you? Make amends where you can but when you can't, say: *I trust you, Lord, to make good come out of this mess*.

27 / Wed – A failure to obey | Read [Jonah 1:1 - 3:10](#)

Jonah was a prophet, one of God's spokespersons. He feared and hated the people God wanted him to confront. Jonah knew that, if they repented, God would have mercy but he wanted these wicked people punished for their sins against *his* nation. Instead of obeying, he ran the opposite direction. Have you ever had a similar experience? Did God give you a second chance?

28 / Thu – A test of faith | Read [Matthew 14:25-32](#) and [26:31-35, 69-75](#)

Peter eventually became a rock in the newly-formed church but he experienced his share of failure along the way. In Matthew's account of the storm, what caused Peter to almost drown? After Jesus revealed his death was coming, Peter was quick to declare his loyalty. Then he utterly failed Jesus when it counted the most. Peter's failure was not a surprise to Jesus. He prayed for Peter in Luke 22:32, and then completely restored him in John 21:13-19. What kind of amazing grace is that?!

29 / Fri – A moral failure | Read [2 Samuel 11 \(especially v. 27\)](#)

There was no question that David loved the Lord. Yet that alone cannot guarantee you will never fail. The most godly person is not immune to temptation. In the moment, David failed to consider that hidden sins do not remain hidden and they will cost you dearly. He failed to guard his heart and mind, and the results devastated everyone involved. (You can read the rest of the story in 2 Samuel 12:1-25.) Where do you set your affections and what can *you* do to guard *your* heart?

30 / Sat – Benefits of failure | Read [1 Peter 1:6-8](#) / [John 15:5](#)

Failure shows *you* what God already knows, the things you can never do on your own. It reveals your limitations and highlights falsely-placed confidence. It helps you understand how much you need Him. in a good way. It humbles you so you become less judgemental about others. And it strengthens a healthy dependence on God. Your response to failure will become a story of hope others need to hear or will take you down the denial road to further pain. What will you choose?