

Stretch Six: Climbing Out of Failure

Text: Luke 22:32

Introduction:

failure : **1 a** : omission of occurrence or performance; *specifically* : a failing to perform a duty or expected action **b** : a state of inability to perform a normal function <kidney *failure*> -- compare HEART FAILURE **c** : a fracturing or giving way under stress <structural *failure*>

2 a : lack of success **b** : a failing in business : **BANKRUPTCY**

3 a : a falling short : **DEFICIENCY** <a crop *failure*> **b** : **DETERIORATION, DECAY**

4 : one that has failed (<http://www.m-w.com/dictionary/stress>).

Failure is the result of one force causing another opposing force to lose. God causes and allows various “forces” to come into our lives to test us. Clearly, God does not tempt us, but He does permit Satan to (James 1:13). We must be careful to stand strongly in the tests and temptations we face. Sometimes we garner an “I can’t do it” attitude. We must remember that in Christ we are on the side of *victory*—not defeat (1 Corinthians 15:57; 1 John 5:4).

I. Types of Failure

- A. Personal/ _____ – failing a standard or rule for life (Psalm 40:12)
- B. _____ – failing in your relationship with God (Deuteronomy 8:11, 14)
- C. _____ – failing to control your emotions or desires (1 Samuel 16:15-16)
- D. _____ – failing to perform a specific task (Psalm 71:9)
- E. _____ – failing to think properly or to mentally perform (James 1:8)

II. Reasons for Failure

- A. Trusting in _____ things.
 - 1. _____ – Genesis 47:15
 - 2. _____ – Isaiah 31:3
 - 3. _____ – Jeremiah 48:33
- B. Living in the _____ – Galatians 6:8

- C. Allowing _____ to pervade – James 1:14
- D. Denying _____ – Isaiah 29:15

III. Results of Failure

- A. Tarnished _____ – 2 Timothy 4:10
- B. Broken _____ – Acts 15:38

IV. Response to Failure

- A. _____ you were wrong – Psalm 51:3
- B. _____ forgiveness – 1 Chronicles 21:8
- C. _____ to the unfailing – Psalm 31:3
 - 1. _____ – Deuteronomy 31:6
 - 2. God's _____ – Luke 16:17
 - 3. God's _____ – Lamentations 3:22
- D. _____ accountability – Proverbs 9:8
- E. _____ your failures to be used – 2 Corinthians 12:10
 - 1. Proclaim a Super God, not a super _____ – 1 Peter 4:11
 - 2. Support _____ in their life's walk – Galatians 6:1
 - a) _____/encourage – Romans 14:19
 - b) _____ – Ephesians 5:11