

Series: Peter

September 7, 2014

Message: Wrong Step, Failure and Redemption

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### Wrong Steps:

Matthew 16:21-23; Luke 22

Don't walk ahead if your goal is following.

Don't fall behind, you end up walking alone.

Always stay close enough to hear His voice.

### Understanding Failure:

Luke 22:31-32

Satan is real, and works in: our circumstances, our nature (desires), Spiritually.

Failure is an event, not a person.

Failure can be Satan's weapon, or God's most powerful tool.

### How To Overcome Failure: Redemption

Luke 22:54-62; John 4:1-42; John 21:15-19; 1 John 1:9, 2:1-2; Hebrews 7:24-25; 1 Peter 2:24 **Satan**: 1 Peter 5:8; John 8:44, 10:10; Ephesians 6:11, Revelation 12:9-10

Call sin, sin...and own it!

Repent and ask forgiveness.

Listen to what God says about you, not Satan's lies.

Remember, Jesus won't fail us, even when we fail him.

## Food for thought

For the week of September 7, 2014

Turn a message into a conversation. Consider joining with a friend to review the message and dig deeper into God's word through the following questions.

This week we heard about Peter's denial of Christ. Can you think of any situations you've been in where it would have been easy for you to downplay the fact you were a Christ follower?

Have you ever thought that someone who was confessing or apologizing for something wasn't really "owning up" to their stuff? How does 2 Corinthians 7:8-11 help us understand what true confession is?

How might this kind of true repentance affect your confession to others, and/or to God?

Avoiding repeated sin and failure is something we all hope to do as we follow Christ. But we all have also seen others experience, or have experienced ourselves, the reality of falling back into the same pattern of repeated sin and failure. Fortunately, God has given us some spiritual practices that can help decrease the temptation to presume upon God's second chances and at the same time strengthen us for consistent obedience. How might the following passages speak to this?

Psalms 119:9-11

1 Corinthians 15:33

Philippians 4:8

2 Timothy 2:22

Looking back at these passages again, what are some specific applications and ways to put these verses into action? Have you ever found one to be more helpful than the other? Is there one you feel you need to apply in your life right now?

## **THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS**

Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful relationships with Jesus and each other through the study of God's Word (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25).

Here's how we accomplish this in our community:

### **SHARE**

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

### **STUDY**

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

### **SUPPORT**

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

### **SERVE**

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God's kingdom.