

IV. DEVELOP YOUR FAITH THROUGH FAILURE

A. Peter got better, not bitter.

¹⁰ *"But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you."*

I Peter 5:10

¹⁸ *"but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. to Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen."*

II Peter 3:18

B. Failure, when handled correctly, leads to a stronger faith.

¹⁶ *"For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again, but the wicked shall fall by calamity."*

Proverbs 24:16

V. DECIDE TO FOLLOW JESUS' PLAN AFTER YOUR FAILURE

A. Peter struggled with regret, but Jesus did not give up on Peter.

⁷ *"But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."*

Mark 16:7

B. Failure is a decoy, but not a dead end.

¹³ *"Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,*

¹⁴ *I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*

Philippians 3:13-14

JESUS FORGIVES YOU WHEN YOU FAIL

FOLLOW JESUS: STORIES ON THE LIFE OF PETER

I Don't Know Him: A Story Of Failure

Pastor Steve Reynolds

Introduction:

A. Jesus called out to Peter, *"Follow Me"* (Matthew 4:19). This began what would be a remarkable journey of Peter learning how to follow Jesus more closely.

There is much we can learn from studying the life of Peter. Many of the challenges he faced are common to all of us. We can relate to his humanity as he experienced great moments of faith and moments of failure.

To follow Jesus is to be like Jesus. Knowing this the Key Verse for this series is I Peter 2:21 where Peter wrote, *"For this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps."*

B. Attend the FOLLOW JESUS Teaching series to learn how to follow Jesus more closely. Explore interesting stories and valuable lessons from the life of Peter. Learn from this inspiring transformation of how a simple fisherman became a founding leader of Christianity.

Oct 12 On The Shore: A Story Of Transformation

Oct 19 Cast Your Nets: A Story Of Provision

Oct 26 In The Storm: A Story Of Faith

Nov 2 They Saw His Glory: A Story Of Confidence

Nov 9 Washing Their Feet: A Story Of Serving

TODAY I Don't Know Him: A Story Of Failure

Nov 23 By The Fire: A Story Of Restoration

Nov 30 Build My Church: A Story Of Significance

C. TEXT Mark 14:27-31, 66-72

Follow Jesus Principle: Jesus forgives you when you fail.

⁷² *"A second time the rooster crowed. Then Peter called to mind the word that Jesus had said to him, 'Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.' And when he thought about it, he wept."*

Mark 14:72

HOW JESUS HELPS YOU RISE ABOVE FAILURE

I. DEAL WITH THE EMOTIONS OF YOUR FAILURE

A. Peter broke down and wept.

⁷² *"A second time the rooster crowed. Then Peter called to mind the word that Jesus had said to him, 'Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.' And when he thought about it, he wept."*

Mark 14:72

⁵⁹ *"Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, 'Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean.'*

⁶⁰ *But Peter said, 'Man, I do not know what you are saying!'" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.*

⁶¹ *And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, 'Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.'*

⁶² *So Peter went out and wept bitterly."*

Luke 22:59-62

Five emotional stages of failure:

- Shock
- Fear
- Anger
- Shame
- Despair

B. Failure is painful.

It's what you do with the grief that matters most.
You can give up or grow up.

¹⁰ *"For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death."*

II Corinthians 7:10

II. DRAW CLOSE TO JESUS DURING YOUR FAILURE

A. Peter was forgiven by Jesus.

³¹ *"And the Lord said, 'Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.*

³² *But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.'"*

Luke 22:31-32

B. Failure is forgivable.

⁹ *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

I John 1:9

III. DETERMINE THE SOURCE OF YOUR FAILURE

A. Peter failed because he was arrogant.

²⁹ *"Peter said to Him, 'Even if all are made to stumble, yet I will not be.'*

³¹ *But he spoke more vehemently, 'If I have to die with You, I will not deny You!' and they all said likewise."*

Mark 14:29, 31

¹⁸ *"Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."*

Proverbs 16:18

B. Failure can be avoided through humility.

¹ *"Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the LORD guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain."*

Psalm 127:1

⁵ *"Likewise, you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for 'God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.'*

⁶ *"Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time"*

I Peter 5:5-6