

HIGHER AIM

Lessons From Failure - Part 2

Matthew 17:14-23

INTRODUCTION

God does not want you to see yourself as a failure. Instead, He wants you to learn from the failures you go through. Sometimes, the only lesson you will learn is, “Don't do that again.” In today's key passage, there are three basic lessons that you will learn from failure. We discussed the first two last week, so we're going to add the third this week. I pray you will learn from these failures in your own life and that you will find encouragement and comfort even when you fall short.

KEY POINTS

1. When People Fail To Help, Keep Searching

For many of us, the first place we try to find help when we fail is to go to other people. We say, “Please help me. Do you have the answer? Can you give me some insight? Do you have some resources that can help me get through this?” We tend to go to other people.

But when people fail us and fall short when we need help, we shouldn't give up. Instead, we should run to the One who should always be our first option, not our last resort: Jesus! He is always ready and willing to help us with whatever we're facing. So if you're struggling to find help, don't throw in the towel. Instead, keep searching, and I promise you will find Jesus.

2. When You Fail To Help People, Keep Seeking

I don't know where or when God will make clear what He has for you, but you are never out of His sight and His mind. He knows exactly what you are going through. He knows exactly what you are feeling, and He knows your fears. Most of all, He knows His plan for you. If you are still breathing, there is hope for you.

I pray that if you have a burden on your heart for someone like that frantic father had for his son in today's key passage, that you wouldn't stop until you get the answer from Jesus. He will tell you what He is planning to do. As parents, nothing is worse than seeing your child fail and falter. Remember this, the story is not over yet. God is not through with them. You may have blown it hundreds of times. The story is not over for you, either. You need to keep seeking.

NOTES

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Have you ever taken the time to reflect on your failures and try to learn from them? Why or why not?
2. How can the pain we experience from failure hinder us from learning from our mistakes?
3. What is a recent failure you can reflect on and try to learn from with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit?
