

GOD'S ANSWERS TO LIFE'S DIFFICULT QUESTIONS

Bible Class Series

HOW CAN I REBOUND FROM FAILURE?

Failure

An act or instance of failing or proving unsuccessful; lack of success

Is a nonperformance of something due, required, or expected

Failure means not performing up expectations; being unsuccessful or defeated.

Failure in Hebrew, means to break, destroy, foil or make useless

TWO TYPES OF FAILURE:

1. **Destructive failure** reveals your limitations and weaknesses, highlights your shortcomings, and when not processed correctly, keeps you feeling inadequate and defective.

Matthew 27:3-5 (NIV)

3 When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders.

4 "I have sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed innocent blood." "What is that to us?" they replied. "That's your responsibility."

5 So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.

2. **Productive failure** reveals your limitations and weaknesses, highlights your erroneous thinking, and when processed correctly, leads you to better options and keeps you dependent on the Lord.

Matthew 26:75 (NIV)

75 Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

The only way to never fail is to never try anything new. Failure is a part of life. If you don't fail, then you're not really trying. If you want to rebound from a failure, you must first get over the fear of failing again.

Matthew 25:25-26 (NIV)

25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' 26 "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed?

That's what God thinks when we play it safe and refuse to take risks, when we refuse to live by faith. You cannot become what God wants you to be by playing it safe.

HOW TO OVERCOME THE FEAR OF FAILURE

1. Remember Everyone Fails
2. Remember Failure is Not Final
3. Recognize the Benefits of failure

Benefits of failure:

- Failure Educates
 - Failure develops Skills
 - Failure helps us Discover Our True Talent
 - Failure makes us Less Judgmental
4. Re-Define failure
 5. Stop Comparing yourself to others
 6. Replace fear with Faith in Christ