

5-Day Devotional: Grace After Failure
Pastor Jay Hassman
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Day 1: Grace Pursues You

Reading: Luke 19:10; Psalm 34:18

Devotional: When Peter failed, he didn't run toward Jesus. Instead, he went back to fishing, returning to what felt safe and familiar. Yet Jesus didn't wait for Peter to come back; He went to the shore and sought him out. This is the heart of grace: it pursues. You may have stepped back from God after a failure, believing you've disqualified yourself. But God knows exactly where you went, and He's not standing at a distance. He's moving toward you with compassion. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted. Your failure didn't push Him away. It activates His pursuit. Today, stop running and let yourself be found.

Reflection: Where have you "gone back to fishing" after a failure? How does knowing God pursues you change your perspective?

Day 2: Grace Meets You at the Fire

Reading: John 21:1-14; 1 John 1:9

Devotional: The last time Peter stood near a fire, he denied Jesus three times. Now, after the resurrection, Jesus brings him back to another fire and not to shame him, but to restore him. God doesn't avoid the places where you broke; He meets you there to show you that you're not broken anymore. Grace doesn't ignore your failure or weaponize it. Instead, it cleanses and restores. If you confess, God is faithful to forgive and purify you completely. The same setting, the same memory, but a different outcome and that's the power of restoration. God takes you back to heal what hurt you.

Reflection: What "fire" (painful memory) do you need God to redeem? Can you trust Him to restore you there?

Day 3: From Condemnation to Restoration

Reading: Romans 8:1; Micah 7:18-19

Devotional: Shame whispers, "You are your failure." But grace declares, "You are still Mine." There is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus. God doesn't just forgive your sins. He casts them into the depths of the sea, removing them as far as east is from west. Many believers remain stuck not because God hasn't forgiven them, but because they haven't received His forgiveness. Jesus didn't die merely to pardon you; He died to restore you fully. Stop replaying what God has already buried. His compassion is new every morning, and His grace doesn't shame as it heals, renews, and makes whole.

Reflection: Are you holding onto something God has already forgiven? What would it look like to truly receive His grace today?

Day 4: Your Calling Remains

Reading: Romans 11:29; Philippians 1:6

Devotional: After restoring Peter, Jesus immediately reaffirmed his calling: "Feed My sheep." He didn't lower the assignment or give Peter something smaller. Your failure does not cancel your calling. God's gifts and purposes are irrevocable. He doesn't restart you at zero; He restores you with everything He already placed within you. Peter went from denier to church leader because God finishes what He starts. You may have fallen, but falling isn't the end. The fact that some people stay down is. God is still working in you, and He will complete the good work He began. Your worst moment doesn't define your future.

Reflection: What calling or purpose have you abandoned because of failure? How can you step back into it with renewed faith?

Day 5: Your Story Isn't Over

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17; Joel 2:25; Proverbs 24:16

Devotional: If failure had the final word, Peter's story would have ended at the fire of denial. But grace had the final word. In Christ, you are a new creation and the old has passed away. God doesn't just move you forward; He restores the years the locusts have eaten. You may feel crumpled like discarded paper, but God doesn't throw you away. He smooths out what looks ruined and writes a new chapter. A righteous person may fall seven times but rises again. Your failure is not the end of your story; it's the place where grace writes redemption. Stand up. Your future is still full of purpose.

Reflection: What new chapter is God inviting you to write? How will you respond to His grace today?