

Falling Part 5 – The Prime Years

Series on Falling – Pastor Larry Hof

30-40

Sunday, April 28, 2024

Proverbs 24:16 For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again:

- So, we have covered most of the early stages of life, and today we will look at the final stage of the first 40 years of life. This is an advanced stage when speaking of abilities, co-ordination, agility, mental aptitude, and pure physical prowess.
- I want to remind us of a few thoughts before we proceed.
 - Falling doesn't always mean failing.
 - Everyone falls, and everyone fails, but that doesn't mean we stay down or quit trying.
 - Falling is an unfortunate part of our learning to walk and can often be painful, but our falls often times are our best teacher.
 - Once again, we will look at the physical stage of life and then hopefully make some spiritual applications.

What does the Bible say when it comes to our walking...

Psalm 15:1 LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?

2a He that walketh uprightly

Psalm 128:1 Blessed is everyone that feareth the LORD; that **walketh** in his ways.

Psalm 37:23 *The **steps** of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.*

31 *The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.*

Romans 8:1 *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who **walk** not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

2Corinthians 5:7 *(For we **walk** by faith, not by sight:)*

Galatians 5:16 *This I say then, **Walk** in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*

3 John 1:4 *I have no greater joy than to hear that my children **walk** in truth.*

- **The Bible has much to say about how we walk, maybe God would rather us not fall?**

5. By the is stage falls are more often the outcome of a choice rather than an accident.

- Each activity chosen to undertake has either potential to protect from a fall or produce one
 - These are our more daring years
 - This is produced from self-realization of our strengths and/or weaknesses
 - We tend to focus on our strengths and ignore our weakness due to arrogance
 - This is also when we are able to apply our accrued knowledge to prove that we've reach adult status
 - I.E. we know everything

- We expect respect more often than trying to earn it
- This is when we take greater risks in our lives
 - Greater risk, greater reward
 - If wisdom is utilized at this stage great things can/will be accomplished
 - If wisdom is utilized at this stage, we will have standards and practices in our lives to protect us from damaging falls
 - This wisdom is found in wise counsel
 - From an advanced stage individual, not peers or experience
 - This takes a measure of faith in where we receive counsel
 - This type of individual is usually more reclusive of the crowd
 - Greater risk, greater falls
 - If self-realization is un-attainable due to an individual's wealth of knowledge...
 - Falls are un-avoidable
 - These falls can produce lifelong implications
 - Those who have some self-realization...
 - Will look to some wise counsel before taking on an endeavor
 - Still will more often than not find out things for themselves
 - This comes from a sense of invulnerability due to prowess
 - This comes from not having enough self-awareness to know our weaknesses
 - They will very rarely fall the same way twice; experience is the best teacher for this type

- This is the stage of life that will cause ripple effects for the next 30-40 years of life
 - Falls that are encountered should help to implement practices to prohibit future falls
 - Falls that are endured will leave lasting impressions
 - The bigger the endeavor the harder the fall
 - The harder the fall the bigger impact it has on our future
 - Falls that are experienced can help us to keep others from following suite.
 - Falls that are escaped will often be attributed to outside help
 - Wise counsel
 - A Watchful Eye
 - Wounded individuals
 - Falls that are avoided can still be a danger, so diligence is necessary

Falling can be fun at this age, but it will more often than not cause regrets for the next 2 stages of life.

Falling Part 6

Series on Falling – Pastor Larry Hof

October 30, 2019

April 28, 2024

Proverbs 24:16 For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again:

6. Grown – Mature Adults 40-60

1. Falls may happen, but rarely without being a choice to fall or a choice to be negligent in our prevention of falling
(Just a reminder that this is the stage where we are plagued with the results of the prior stages of life's falls.)

- a. We are now mature enough to be considered experts in walking
 - i. We have suffered falls and what causes them
 - ii. We have avoided falls and learned prevention
- b. Even running w/o incident can be achieved and is beneficial and can be enjoyed
 - i. Running isn't for everyone
 - ii. Different speeds for different speeds
- c. Jumping is still somewhat of a consideration but calculated and reserved for special circumstances
 - i. Jumps can be necessary depending on vocation or location
 - ii. Jumps can happen without falling due to either experience or proper planning
 - iii. Sometimes a jump is necessary without knowing, this takes faith in abilities and experiences
- d. Falling is mostly avoided due to past experiences
 - i. We understand to fall is to hurt ourselves
 1. We know not all falls are avoided
 2. We know to watch for obstacles
 3. We know situations to avoid
 - ii. When falling is not avoided
 1. It will be caused by a desire to fall or
 2. A desire to walk in an uncontrolled unknown environment
 - a. This is foolish

- b. This is a choice
 - i. Not a choice to fall
 - ii. But falls are unavoidable
- e. When falls occur...
 - i. The level of pain is congruent with the height from which we fall
 - 1. Or speed
 - 2. Or direction our choice took us
 - ii. Getting up and going on...
 - 1. Will be determined by our level of injury
 - 2. Or our resolve to spend time healing

Psalm 37:23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.

Remember falling isn't always failing, it's part of walking and happens to us all. Failure comes when we cease to get up one more time.