

SO WHAT

- What truth do we believers hold on to when we fail?
- How does knowing the truth about God's mercy, love, and grace affect your attitude towards failure?
- What can we learn from Proverbs 24:16 as it relates to failure?

NOW WHAT

- What is one area in life that you would constantly struggle and fall? What promise in the Bible can you claim to overcome this?
- Take time this week to encourage someone you know who have failed at something.
- How can we encourage other people who have experienced great failures in their lives?

PRAYER

- Pray for an area of failure where you have not yet fully recovered from. Ask God to let faith and trust in Him rise up in your heart to help you overcome.
- Believe for grace and victory in an area in your life where you would constantly fall. Respond with obedience to God's Word.
- Ask God to give you the grace and hunger to know and love Him more so that you will be enabled to say "no" to sin more and more or run to Him in times of failure.



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WEEK 4

In Times of Failure



NOTES

CONNECT

- What subject in school did you excel in as a student?
- Share of a time when you lost in a game that you took seriously and competitively. What happened?
- What is one thing that you are not good at? How do you handle this weakness?

WORD

¹⁰Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

PSALM 51:10-12

WHAT

After Nathan confronted David of adultery and murder, he sang this song to God. At David’s point of failure, he still went to God and eventually recovered. In the same way for us, in times of failure, we too can go to God and move onward. What can we learn from David’s response and God’s character that can help us recover in times of failure?

1 David admitted his failure humbly.

Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.” Nathan replied, “The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.” 2 SAMUEL 12:13

When David realized that he had sinned against God, his initial response was to admit his sin and appeal to God’s mercy. Recovery from failure starts from us being humbly aware that we failed. This helps us approach God and the authorities that we failed (bosses, parents, teachers, etc.) in humility and not being defensive and or making excuses. What makes it hard for people to admit their failure?

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2 David faced failure by trusting God.

Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate. 2 SAMUEL 12:20

Faced with the consequence of his sin where his child became sick and eventually died, David continued to trust God’s character and power. He humbly appealed to God’s mercy to spare his child. And even if in the end his request was not granted, David still responded in faith and trust in God. So much so that even in the midst of the consequences of his failure, David continued to worship God. When we fail, do we find it easy to run to God and worship Him? Like David, why can we continue to trust God?

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3 David was restored by God.

²⁴Then David comforted his wife Bathsheba, and he went to her and made love to her. She gave birth to a son, and they named him Solomon. The Lord loved him; ²⁵and because the Lord loved him, he sent word through Nathan the prophet to name him Jedidiah. 2 SAMUEL 12:24,25

Ultimately though and at the end of the day, David was able to recover because of God’s grace and provision as seen in the birth of Jedidiah. In the same way for us, we recover from our failures because of God’s help, love, and provision. Tell of a time when God helped you recover from a failure.

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