

Failing - Mark 14:27-31

Who said... ? Failure quiz.

Print out the list of statements and names. Read out each statement and try to match up with the correct person. (The answers are at the end of the study.)

1. Consider the statements from the quiz. Which do you agree with (or not!)? Maybe some of you would like to share about a time when you have failed. What change came about through that failure?

Read Mark 14:27-31

2. Jesus knows Peter better than Peter knows himself. Peter was ready to *succeed*, to fight (as we see vs 47, Jn 18:10), instead he is doomed to *fail*. Peter trusted in power and violence but Jesus is offering limitless grace. A new way of love. Could Peter (and the other disciples) have comprehended that *without failing*?
3. Consider what you know of the church today and throughout its history. How much reflects a desire for success, power and even violence? Consider yourself- are their elements of power over mercy, fear before hope, chaos instead of peace?

Richard Rohr writes: *The path of descent is the path of transformation. Darkness, failure, relapse, death, and woundedness are our primary teachers, rather than ideas or doctrines.*

4. Peter was utterly humbled by his failure and yet ultimately it was through this he was able to truly know who he was (and is) in Christ. Are we willing to fall, to fail, so that we might really know Christ and know ourselves as He does?

Prayer - spend some time together praying together. Ask for the courage to fall and the strength to get up. Ask to see as Jesus would have us see- to be transformed by descent.

Answers to Failure Quiz

1. Success is failure in progress. Albert Einstein
2. Sin is necessary, but all will be well. St Julian of Norwich
3. We should all start to live before we get old. Fear is stupid. So are regrets. Marilyn Monroe.
4. I have failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed. Michael Jordan .
5. There is no such thing as failure. Failure is just life trying to move us in another direction. Oprah

6. The reality is, sometimes you lose. And you're never too good to lose, you're never too big to lose, you're never too smart to lose, it happens. And it happens when it needs to happen. And you have to embrace those things. Beyoncé
7. Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better. Maya Angelou
8. Do not judge me by my successes. Judge me by how many times I fell down and got up again. Nelson Mandela
9. Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly. Robert F. Kennedy
10. Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts. Winston Churchill
11. We are all failures - at least the best of us are. J.M. Barrie
12. I don't have any regrets. I made all my own decisions. George Best
13. Apologising is a great thing but you have to be wrong. I will absolutely apologise if I'm ever wrong. Donald Trump

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