

“A DRINK FROM THE SPRING” 5-10-10

This Week’s Thought: Failure: *“Nonperformance of something due or expected.”*

This Week’s Quote: *“The only really fatal element in defeat is the resolution not to try again.”*
.....J. H. Jowett

This Week’s Prayer Concern: Dorothy Glessner is hospitalized with heart issues. She received a permanent pacemaker a few days ago. Sally Kaufman was taken to the hospital last Saturday evening during the Mother/Daughter Banquet. She remains hospitalized for more testing can be done.

This Week’s Scripture: *“Therefore since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart.”* (2 Corinthians 4:1)

At various stages of our lives we all experience various kinds of failure. Some failures are out of our control and others are not. How do you handle failure?

The Apostle Paul experienced one “failure” after another. In 2 Corinthians 11:24-30 he gives a litany of failures such as hardships, persecutions and pain. He could have said, “I’ve been down for the count of 9, but I’m getting back up. I’ve been knocked down but I’m not out.”

When you experience failure what are your first questions? Do you ask, “Why are people doing this to me? Why is God allowing this to happen?” Or, you may think; “I’ve been keeping my prayer life up to date and I have been walking with the Lord. Why should this happen to me?” Perhaps a better question we should ask is, “What can I learn through this experience?” What is God teaching me through this failure?”

Joni Erickson became a paraplegic after a diving accident some years ago. She testified that her physical disability pushed her to start a life-long ministry to help others like herself. Joni said, “We shouldn’t view life’s struggles as daunting obstacles to our happiness. They can be keys to our lasting happiness.”

I believe that God is speaking to us today and saying, “Don’t give up. Keep the faith. I’m preparing you for ministry.” And remember, failure is not falling down, failure is staying down.

Serving With You,

Pastor Guy