

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground...

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the

LIVING IN VICTORY

CHRIST'S POWER IN YOUR LIFE

authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God,

Failure is Never Final

April 21, 2024 Message Notes

Luke 22:31-32

There will be times when life gets hard, when following Christ gets really hard, when fear and temptations are strong and the spiritual adversary moves in with crushing force...

Watch Christ Journey messages at:
ChristJourney.org/Messages



NOTES

Lindt chocolate, Post-it notes, Bubble wrap and YouTube all came into being as product failures.

Failure, though real, doesn't have to be final.

You matter to God. Your failures matter to God.

One word for you today - hope.

“... So that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.” Luke 22:30

“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.’ Simon replies, ‘Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death.’ Jesus answered, ‘I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows today, you will deny three times that you know me.’”
Luke 22:31-34



The Shepherd will be struck and the apostles, like husks, will be crushed and scattered in the high wind. Failure is coming.

This is our story, too.

- We will fail and stumble, make missteps and mistakes.
- Yet Christ doesn't slam us for failure.
- He's ready to redeem it into a victory of overcoming.

1. There will be times when life gets hard, when following Christ gets really hard, when fear and temptations are strong and the spiritual adversary moves in with crushing force.

2. In those times you may not withstand the heat. And even if you do, you're going to need prayer.

What kind of heat? **Loss**

Loss of a trusted loved one.

Loss of security and safety.

Loss of courage and nerve.

The trauma of **loss and grief**.

3. Your failure doesn't have to be final.



Peter's failure must have felt pretty final with his denial and Jesus' crucifixion.

But Peter turned back to Jesus, and God used him to bring hope to others and to every one of us who has ever failed.

The story of the fall is the story of us all.

"... But Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners"
1 Timothy 1:15

The enemy will fight to sift and crush us, make us stumble and fall.

Failure doesn't have to be final in **Jesus Christ**.

When we find our best intentions and efforts aren't enough, we discover that Jesus is.

Jesus is giving us a secret in Peter's story for dealing with the devil:

- We don't need to be intimidated by fear, shame or our own failures.
- God doesn't stop believing in us.



- He's trusting us to help others find their way.

The angel tells the women at the tomb, “Jesus is risen. Come see the place where he was laid. But go and tell the disciples **and Peter.**” Mark 16:7

Failure **isn't final** in Jesus Christ! It's true for all of us.

