



YOU CAN BEGIN AGAIN

Part Three: "Failure is not Final"

Pastor David Cannistraci ♦ January 27, 2008

"The godly may trip seven times, but they will get up again."
Proverbs 24:16 (NLT)

► Our _____ can be stepping-stones to new
_____ in our lives.

JOHN MARK FAILED _____

"[John Mark] fled naked, leaving his garment behind." Mark 14:52 (NIV)

"Paul and the others...sailed to Perga in Pamphylia. But John left them and went back to Jerusalem." Acts 13:13 (CEV)

"Barnabas...wanted to take along John Mark. But Paul disagreed strongly, since John Mark had deserted them...and had not continued with them in their work. Their disagreement was so sharp that they separated." Acts 15:37-39 (NLT)

JOHN MARK _____ BACK

1 Peter 5:13 – Mark became a spiritual _____ to Peter

"Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry." 2 Timothy 4:11 (NKJV)

HOW FAILURES BECOME _____

Failures become my stepping stones when I...

1. _____ my mistakes

"We all stumble in many ways." James 3:2 (NIV)

Failure (Cont'd)

2. _____ **God's forgiveness**

"He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy...As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust." Psalms 103:10-14 (NKJV)

3. _____ **what I have learned**

"As a dog returns to its vomit, so a fool repeats his foolishness." Proverbs 26:11 (NLT)

4. _____ **and begin again!**

"So David arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped." 2 Samuel 12:20 (NKJV)

"Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; when I fall, I will arise; when I sit in darkness, the LORD will be a light to me." Micah 7:8 (NKJV)

RESOURCES FOR THIS WEEK'S SMALL GROUPS

Icebreaker: Share a time when you got up and started over.

Scripture Focus: Let each member share a verse from this teaching--one that spoke to them personally. What does it mean to them?

Discussion Focus: Which is harder after a failure: to gain forgiveness from God or to forgive ourselves? Why?

Prayer Focus: Pray for the members of the group to use their failures as stepping stones to a successful 2008.

REMEMBER to give an offering for the needy in your group this week, for God has promised us a rich reward (Det. 15:11, Psalm 41:1)