

Learning from Failure

Dave Folkerts

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1 Corinthians 10:1-5 For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. 2 They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. 3 They all ate the same <u>spiritual food</u> 4 and drank the same <u>spiritual drink</u>; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. 5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

• God's faithfulness doesn't make us faithful. We must decide to please the LORD.

1 Corinthians 10:6 Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from <u>setting our hearts on</u> <u>evil</u> things as they did.

• 1. Commit to living a life pleasing to God

Colossians 3:1-2 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

1 Corinthians 10:7 Do not be <u>idolaters</u>, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry."

• 2. Keep idols from taking root in our lives

1 Corinthians 10:8 We should not commit <u>sexual immorality</u>, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died.

• 3. Dedicate ourselves to sexual purity

1 Corinthians 10:9-10 We should not <u>test Christ</u>, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes.
10 And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the <u>destroying angel</u>.

• 4. Be grateful to God in all circumstances

Philippians 2:14-15 Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.

Numbers 21:4-9 They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; **5** they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread!

There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!" **6** Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. **7** The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people. **8** The Lord said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." **9** So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

John 3:14-15 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in Him."

1 Corinthians 10:11-12 These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. 12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

• 5. Learn from the failures of the past, don't repeat them.

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

- Steps to endure temptation:
- Learn from the experiences of others
- Stay full of the Holy Spirit
- Reply on God's faithfulness
- Don't be over-confident
- Call **321.574.6970** if you have chosen to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation.