

# RESET SERIES PT. 1

## LETTING JESUS FLIP YOUR FLOP

### *Memory Verse*

*“The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is His faithfulness. His mercies begin a fresh each morning! (Lamentations 3:22-23)*

### **I. Introduction**

All of us are in a time of resetting somewhere in our life. (Direction, Finances, Relationships, Attitude, Recovery...)

- A. Life doesn't go as \_\_\_\_\_ and we don't do as well as we hope. As we fall on our face, we have to make the important choice to either resent or reset.
- B. God's mercy gives us the \_\_\_\_\_ so that we can move from disgrace to grace.
- C. Victorious people don't have less failure they just handle it \_\_\_\_\_. They refuse to let the Accuser define their failure experience.
  - 1. Many have allowed themselves to feel emotionally disqualified in life. Failure becomes an identity not just an event.
  - 2. Victorious people let the embrace of God, not the embarrassment of their failure, define them.

“Failure is the kiss of Jesus.” Mother Teresa

### **II. What are the thoughts, attitudes, and habits we can exchange to reset failure in our life?**

- A. Believe God can and will bring something \_\_\_\_\_ through failure.
  - “How would you handle failure if you knew that you would be better, stronger, wiser and more successful because of it?”
  - “He will restore the years the locust has eaten.” (Joel 2:27 NKJV)
  - “He will give beauty for ashes.” (Isaiah 61:3)
  - “God will flip my flop; this set back will be my slingshot!”
- B. Take \_\_\_\_\_ for your part in the failure and more importantly what you will do about it. Personal responsibility is the first step to metabolizing failure.

Failure that becomes blame or excuses ruins our life. It is not something God can redeem in our life. Take responsibility for both what happened and what you will do about it.

- C. Be \_\_\_\_\_ and teachable. As long as you are down there you might as well pick something up. Ask what are deeper issues that God might want to be surfacing to expose and heal.
- D. Collaborate with \_\_\_\_\_ in your failure. It is through sharing mistakes that we are encouraged, that we draw closer to people, and we learn to see our blind spots. We impress each other through sharing our successes; we draw closer to each other by sharing our struggles.
- E. Choose to believe and act on God's will to move \_\_\_\_\_.
- "...but I focus on this one thing; Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead. I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize from God." (Philippians 3:13b-14)*
- Faith isn't something you feel, it's something you do. It is choosing to face your fears head on and challenging them by decisive action.
- F. Be gracious and kind to others who fail.
- "Blessed are the merciful, they shall obtain mercy." (Mat. 5:7)*

### Questions for Discussion

1. Can you think of an embarrassing moment that you can laugh about now but looking back you wish you were invisible? If you can't think of one of your own you can share someone else's.
2. Has God ever used a failure in your life to reset your life in some way and make it better? How have you found that other people have helped you handle your failure in the past?
3. When you deal with failure, what do you usually struggle with the most?
  - a. Admitting it and facing it
  - b. Letting shame and embarrassment take over, feeling "emotionally disqualified"
  - c. Getting angry & depressed and not believing something good could come out of it
  - d. Leaving failure behind
  - e. Worrying about what people will think or what will happen in the future
  - f. Sharing with other people about your failures and blind spots
4. What can you observe about the difference between the elder brother and prodigal son in the way they handled failure?
5. What is a way of thinking, an attitude-way of reacting, and a pattern or a new habit for dealing with failure that God might want you to choose?

(Answers: I. Planned, reset button, differently II. good, full responsibility, humble, others, forward)