

# Weathering the Storm: Fear of Failure

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – January 25, 2015

[Mark 14:27-31, 66-72](#)

27 "You will all fall away," Jesus told them, "for it is written: 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'" 28 But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee." 29 Peter declared, "Even if all fall away, I will not." 30 "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "today — yes, tonight — before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times." 31 But Peter insisted emphatically, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the others said the same. 32-65... 66 While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. 67 When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him. "You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus," she said. 68 But he denied it. "I don't know or understand what you're talking about," he said, and went out into the entryway. 69 When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, "This fellow is one of them." 70 Again he denied it. After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, "Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." 71 He began to call down curses on himself, and he swore to them, "I don't know this man you're talking about." 72 Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times." And he broke down and wept.

We can turn failure into success and bring glory to God if we...

## I. UNDERSTAND THAT GOD IS MERCIFUL

[Luke 22:31-32](#)

31 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. 32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

[John 20:19-20](#)

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

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## 2. LEARN FROM OUR SOURCE OF FAILURE

The source of Peter's failure was pride.

[Mark 14:29](#) Peter declared, "Even if all fall away, I will not."

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## 3. ALLOW FAILURE TO DRAW US CLOSER TO GOD

[John 21:15-17](#)

15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." 16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." 17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

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## 4. EMBRACE GOD'S NEW PLAN FOR OUR LIFE

Peter became one of the foundations of the Church.

- He wrote 2 books of the NT

[1 Peter 1:3](#)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

- He led people to the saving faith in Jesus (Acts 2)

- He healed (Acts 3)

- He raised people from the dead (Acts 9)

- He was ultimately crucified upside down because he would not deny his faith