

Small Group Discussion 2/6/2022

Overcoming Failure

– sermon by Dan Norwood

John 21:15-22

Getting Started

- Recall a time when you attempted to live for the Lord or to serve the Lord, but failed miserably. Were you tempted to think, “This may work for others, but it doesn’t seem to work for me.”

Static Questions

- **WHAT IS THE PASSAGE ABOUT?**
 - Note the key details (Who, What, When, Where, Why, etc.)
 - Pay attention to the main Facts of the passage.
- **WHAT DID YOU LEARN?**
 - What does the passage reveal about God? About people?
 - Is there a promise or a command or a warning?
 - What is the main truth of the passage?
 - What lessons do you see?
- **HOW WILL YOU APPLY IT?**
 - How does this passage relate to your life right now?
 - What change in your thinking or behavior is needed to align with the truths in this passage?
 - How should you respond based on what you learned?

Discussion

- The message seemed to imply that failure is not only not uncommon in the Christian life, it is also very frequent. What do you think of this?
- Before he failed, Peter boasted about his commitment to the Lord. Paul, in II Timothy 1:12, “boasted” about the Lord’s commitment to him. What is the difference?
- How do you reconcile (1) the Lord’s prediction in Luke 22:34, (2) Peter’s denying the Lord in Luke 22:57, and (3) the statement in II Timothy 2:12-13, “If we deny Him, He will deny us.” Also, how does the statement, “He cannot deny Himself,” harmonize with the other verses? [The words, “deny” and “disown,” are English translations of New Testament words all built on the same root word.]
- According to Acts 7:23, Moses fled from Egypt to Midian after his attempt to rescue Hebrew slave backfired (see Exodus 2:11-16). He stayed there 40 years (Acts 7:30) till God called him to return and lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Use your imagination to think of possible reasons why he might have “hid out” those 40 years. Use your own words to describe what might have influenced Moses to return to Egypt (cf. Exodus 3:1-4:20). Do you think any of this parallels what happened to Peter in John 21:15-22.