

A painting depicting a man, likely Peter, in a state of deep despair or grief. He is shown from the waist up, wearing a white tunic and a brown cloak. He is standing in front of a rough, grey stone wall. His hands are pressed against his face, and his head is bowed, suggesting a moment of intense emotional pain or failure. To the left, a small rooster is perched on a ledge, looking towards the man. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

# What Jesus does with Failure

The Story of Peter (John 21:15-19)

## John 21:15-19

<sup>15</sup> After breakfast Jesus asked Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” Peter replied, “you know I love you.” “Then feed my lambs,” Jesus told him.

<sup>16</sup> Jesus repeated the question: “Simon son of John, do you love me?” “Yes, Lord,” Peter said, “you know I love you.” “Then take care of my sheep,” Jesus said.

<sup>17</sup> A third time he asked him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

## John 21:15-19

Peter was hurt that Jesus asked the question a third time. He said, “Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “**Then feed my sheep.**

<sup>18</sup> “I tell you the truth, when you were young, you were able to do as you liked; you dressed yourself and went wherever you wanted to go. **But when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and others will dress you and take you where you don’t want to go.”**

## John 21:15-19

<sup>19</sup> Jesus said this to let him know by what kind of death he would glorify God. Then Jesus told him, **“Follow me.”**









We are a society that desires  
**PERFECTION** and do not talk about  
Failure enough.

# This Generation

We are currently living in one of the media driven and technology saturated eras in human history

- **Comfortable Generation**
- **Self Critical and Self Absorbed**
- **Fear of Failure and Adversity.**



This Generation

**So how do we deal with Failure?**

**Two options:**

**We can be like Judas or Peter**

# Roadmap

**I. What Causes Personal Failures**

**II. How Do We Respond to Failure**

**III. What Jesus does with Failure**

# I. What Causes Personal Failures?

## 1. Pride ( Matthew 26:31-35)

*34 “Truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.”*  
*35 But Peter declared, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.”*  
*And all the other disciples said the same.*

# I. What Causes Personal Failures?

## 1. Pride ( Matthew 26:31-35)

*The danger of Success Driven Culture*

**Where does pride blind you in your life? Where do you feel Pressure?**

We need humility and God's perspective

# I. What Causes Personal Failures?

## 2. Fear (Matt 26:71-74)

*71 Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth." 72 He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"*



# I. What Causes Personal Failures?

## 2. Fear (Matt 26:71-74)

*73 After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away." 74 Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!" Immediately a rooster crowed.*

# I. What Causes Personal Failures?

## 2. Fear (Matt 26:71-74)

### In failure, we fear:

- Disappointment
- The Unknown.

This leads to **paralysis** or a **desire to shrink away**.



# I. What Causes Personal Failures?

- **Fear (Matt 26:71-74)**

**Be careful** with bringing Success driven Culture to our Church community.

Mark 2:17 → <sup>17</sup> On hearing this, Jesus said to them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

## II. How do we Respond to Failure?

### 1. Deal with Failure

Matthew 26:75 → *Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: “Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” And he went outside and **wept bitterly**.*

**Key Truth:** We all fail. Some of us have denied Jesus in word, deed, or silence.

*We must deal with failure **by Repentance** and **by Grieving** weakness*



## II. How do we Respond to Failure?

### 1. Deal with Failure

#### *1 John 1:9 - Repent*

- <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, **(Christ) is faithful and just** and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

#### *2 Corinthians 12:9-10 – Grieve weakness*

- <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, “**My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.**” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. <sup>10</sup> That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

## II. How do we Respond to Failure?

### 2. Learn from Failure

**Through our Church Community and Prayer**

*(On Easter morning) “Mary Magdalene went and found the **disciples together, grieving and weeping.**” Mark 16:10*

# II. How do we Respond to Failure?

## 2. Learn from Failure

**We are all going to Fail, but we are not Failures**

Winston Churchill, Thomas Edison, Walt Disney, Beethoven

## II. How do we Respond to Failure?

### 3. Cast your Worries on Christ

**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,”*

**1 Peter 5:7** *“Cast all your anxiety on him because **he cares for you.**”*

### III. What Jesus Does With Our Failures

*“<sup>31</sup> Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. <sup>32</sup> **But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail.** And when you have turned back, **strengthen your brothers.**” Luke 22:31-32*

Jesus **is not surprised** by our worst moments.

Jesus predicted the failure but also foretold Peter's **Restoration**. He sees our **future Hope**.



# III. What Jesus Does With Our Failures

## 1. He Prays for us (Hebrews 7:25)

<sup>25</sup> Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, **because he always lives to intercede for them.**

## 2. He Shifts our Focus on Him (Hebrews 1:3)

<sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

# III. What Jesus Does With Our Failures

## 3. He Uses our Failures to Build His Church

***<sup>32</sup> But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.***

- Failure does not disqualify you but it hopefully **humbles you to greater dependence on Him.**
- Only then can Jesus do more than we can Imagine (Peter in Acts 2)

# III. What Jesus Does With Our Failures

## Conclusion:

- **Jesus is Greater** than our Failures!
- Jesus restores our failures with **Grace**, not Guilt.
- **Jesus uses Broken People** to build His kingdom and church.

“God never wastes a failure, but He uses it as the foundation for future faithfulness.”

# Concluding Thoughts

1. What Failures do you have that God wants to Use?

1. How are you going to respond to your failures? Like Judas or Peter?

Jesus is not done with you.