



Rock Point Church
Bill Bush | 11.24.2024

BIG IDEA | Failure doesn't have to be final.

Matthew 26:31-35 (NLT)

³¹ On the way, Jesus told them, “Tonight all of you will desert me. For the Scriptures say,

‘God will strike the Shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’

³² But after I have been raised from the dead, I will go ahead of you to Galilee and meet you there.”

³³ Peter declared, “Even if everyone else deserts you, I will never desert you.”

³⁴ Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, Peter—this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny three times that you even know me.”

³⁵ “No!” Peter insisted. “Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you!” And all the other disciples vowed the same.

Matthew 26:69-75 (NLT)

⁶⁹ Meanwhile, Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant girl came over and said to him, “You were one of those with Jesus the Galilean.”

⁷⁰ But Peter denied it in front of everyone. “I don’t know what you’re talking about,” he said.

⁷¹ Later, out by the gate, another servant girl noticed him and said to those standing around, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.”

⁷² Again Peter denied it, this time with an oath. “I don’t even know the man,” he said.

⁷³ A little later some of the other bystanders came over to Peter and said, “You must be one of them; we can tell by your Galilean accent.”

⁷⁴ Peter swore, “A curse on me if I’m lying—I don’t know the man!” And immediately the rooster crowed.

⁷⁵ Suddenly, Jesus’ words flashed through Peter’s mind: “Before the rooster crows, you will deny three times that you even know me.” And he went away, weeping bitterly.

John 21:15-19 (NLT)

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ 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.

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

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.

¹⁸ “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.” ¹⁹ Jesus said this to let him know by what kind of death he would glorify God. Then Jesus told him, “Follow me.”

Failure is not final when you...

Acknowledge your failure.

Accept God's restoration.

Activate your purpose.

“Repentance is not a one-time event but a lifestyle of continually returning to God’s love.”

– Unknown

“Restoration brings a new beginning where God turns your brokenness into a platform for His purpose.”

– Unknown

GROUPS QUESTIONS:

1. What stood out to you about this week’s sermon?

2. In John 21:15-17, Jesus asked Peter three times, “Do you love me?” What does this teach us about God’s approach to restoration?

3. Think of someone who has failed you. How can you extend grace and restoration to them, as Jesus did with Peter?

4. How does the concept of restoration as a new beginning encourage you to step confidently into your calling, even after failure?

5. Pastor Bill shared that failure is not final when you acknowledge your failure, accept God’s restoration, and activate your purpose. Which of these areas do you find most challenging, and why?

6. Who in your life might need your help in restoring their relationship with God or others? How can you be a source of grace and encouragement for them?

7. What specific action steps can you take this week to grow in humility, embrace restoration, and live out your God-given purpose?