

April 8, 2018  
Series: **Whatta Comeback**  
To Fail Is Human  
Pastor Rick Rufenacht



**Understand who we are.**  
Matt 26:34-35

#1 - **Impulsive**

Matt 16:21-23      Gal 5:22-25      1 Pet 5:8

#2 - **Didn't appreciate weakness**

Isa 53:6      1 Cor 10:12

**Fatigue** - Matt 26

**Pride** - Pr 16:18    Pr 11:2    Pr 29:23

#3 - **He followed Jesus from a distance** \_\_\_\_\_

Jos 24:15      Luke 14:26      Ga 1:10

#4 - **Peter warmed himself by the wrong fire.**

Pr 13:20      Ge 13:12-13      2Co 6:14-15

**Understand who God is.**

#1 - **Jesus knows who you are**

Matt 26:31-35      Joh 10:14

#2 - **Jesus extends grace.**

Luke 22:32    1 Tim 1:13-16      1 Peter 5:10

What is failure, what does it mean to you?

Read Isaiah 53:6

Does everyone fail? Why?

How does failure relate to sin? Are they always tied together?

Explain the difference between real and imaginary failure.

Read Luke 22:24-34

Peter's failure is the worst type, in a sense it was premeditated, for Jesus warned him it would happen. Peter's failure was deliberate, worse yet, a repetitive failure. Peter received warning he would fail, yet he did the very thing for which he was warned. We also, are warned when we are headed toward failure.

Why do we continue on?

Jesus told Peter he would fail and he had given Satan Permission to sift him.

How does it make you feel that Jesus knows you are going to fail and may have given permission for it?

But, Jesus told Peter he would recognize his failure and turn back. As a child of God, how does that make you feel more secure in your failure?

Read Luke 22:54-62

After Peter's third denial Jesus turned and looked at Peter. He had a new revelation as to who Christ was and he was immediately remorseful. He recognized he had failed not only his Lord but his very good friend.

Why must we recognize who Christ is before we are truly remorseful?

It is important for us to grasp that Peter's failure was the worst kind, for if God can forgive this kind of failure, if he can use the failure of willfulness and sin to deepen faith and commitment, he can forgive our failure as well.

How does knowing that Jesus forgave Peter affect our belief in ourselves? How does know Jesus forgave Peter affect our view of other people?

Read Proverbs 28:13

We must recognize we need the Holy Spirit not boastfulness or our own resolve. We must never discount our vulnerability to pride, greed or even indifference.

From Peter's humiliating failure he learned much for when he assumed leadership in the early church.

Is it more difficult to follow Jesus closely after we fail?

Why do you think people tend to move away from the church and worship after they fail? How can we as fellow believers help other to experience the grace that Peter received and that we all have received?

We must always remember that we are weak but He is strong.