

- Epic Fails
- Failure at something happens to everyone. How do we deal with it? What can we learn from it?
  - Edison on failure: “I have not failed 10,000 times. I have successfully found 10,000 ways that will not work.”
  - Our attitude towards and reaction to failure often defines who we are as humans.
  - How we react to spiritual failure defines us as Christians.
- Case comparison on Failure: Judas v. Peter
  - Observed same teachings and miracles from Jesus over 3 years
  - Peter walked on water and failed (Mt. 14); Judas never tried and stayed on the boat.
  - Peter prematurely ended Transfiguration (Mt. 17:4); Judas criticized Jesus (Jn. 12:5).
  - Both denied/left Jesus when he was arrested; Judas couldn’t face his failure, but Peter sought to be restored.
  - Peter was not afraid to fail, learned from his experiences, sought forgiveness, and grew; Judas committed suicide.
- Paul
  - Had previously failed in his service to God (1 Tim. 1:15)
  - Partially because of his past, Paul had to defend his apostleship at times (2 Cor. 11:22-29).
  - Yet, Paul did not boast in his knowledge, visions, or miracles. He boasted in his failures/weaknesses (2 Cor. 11:30, 12:5-10) and in Christ.
- Application
  - Ways we might fail today:
 

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alcohol/drugs</li> <li>▪ Sexual immorality</li> <li>▪ Gossip</li> <li>▪ Lied to someone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Disobeyed parents</li> <li>▪ Misplaced priorities</li> <li>▪ Jealous of neighbor</li> <li>▪ Used Lord’s name in vain</li> </ul>
---	--
  - If we’re guilty of any of those (or something else we didn’t specifically name), how do we react?
    - Do we ignore it and continue in sin?
    - Do we wallow in misery and depression, thinking our sin is too great?
    - Or do we acknowledge our failures, ask God for forgiveness, learn from our failure, change our mindset and actions, and strive to do better?
  - Do we help each other and ask for help? (Jam. 5:16)
  - God loves us, and nothing can separate us from that (Rom. 8:38-39).