

This week, Pastor Ron Halsey brings the second part of the seven part series on "Facing Your Fears". Ron helps you look at the "fear of failure". He points out that almost everyone experiences the fear of failure to one degree or another. You may get chances to do something really significant with your life, but you may draw back and let someone else do it because you fear that you may fail if you try. Sometimes, your fear of failure may lead to a life of regrets. The fact is, all people will really die, but not all will really live.

Ron teaches that there are three things you can do to overcome the "fear of failure". First of all, you can try and you can FAIL. You will find that failure is neither fatal nor is it final. Failure is an opportunity to learn. When you have been trying to accomplish something for God and fail, you have been operating out of faith and not out of your own strength. Take the opportunity to learn from it. Try again.

Second, you can overcome a fear of failure by changing what you FOCUS on. If you focus on the promises of God and not on the situation itself, you can succeed where it appears impossible to do so. As long as Peter was focused on the fact that Jesus had told him to walk on the water, he was successful. Only when he began to focus on the storm surrounding him did he begin to be overcome by it and start to sink. You will never "walk on water" by remaining in the boat!

Third, and last, you can overcome "fear of failure" by exercising Faith. God equips the called, He doesn't call the equipped. He calls you to do the things He has equipped you to do. If you fail to succeed, He will use that experience to refine you, to prepare you more for the job ahead. Peter denied Christ three times and yet it is Peter who we see as one of the main spokesman for the church throughout the New Testament. His earlier "failure" to acknowledge Christ hardens his resolve to spread the gospel in the face of much resistance later. He never lets a fear of failure silence his witness ever again because he knows Jesus has called him to preach the Gospel. He lives his witness by faith.

How will you "get out of the boat" in your life for Christ this week?