



You Can Overcome the Fear of Failure! - Week 2 DISCUSSION GUIDE

OVERVIEW

Fear and anxiety threaten to infect all of us in this ever-changing, unstable culture in which we live. This week, we will discuss how to overcome the fear of failure.

DISCUSSION

The Fear of Failure is the fear of making a mistake and losing approval that stops us from moving forward and achieving our dreams and goals. This mindset is a self-defeating hindrance that relentlessly seeks to hold us back in life.

Practically, many of us struggle with the fear of failure for one reason – because we have a distorted view of success. Culture around us says success is conquering every game, getting the gold medal, winning every award, and never failing. You see, we can have all the success of this world – and still lose in life.

Success from God's perspective is defined as:

- 1. Knowing God intimately.**
- 2. Becoming who God created you to be.**
- 3. Doing what God has called you to do.**

- If you could do anything that you knew you wouldn't fail at, what would you do?
- How does having a distorted view of success impact your willingness to take risks and pursue your goals?

In Joshua 1, Joshua faced a daunting challenge when he was called to lead the Israelites after Moses' death. Moses had been a legendary leader, and Joshua, though trained and appointed by him, was stepping into big shoes. The Israelites, who had followed Moses through decades in the wilderness, now looked to Joshua to guide them into the Promised Land. This transition undoubtedly filled Joshua with fear and doubt, questioning his ability to succeed where Moses had excelled.

- Have you ever stepped into a daunting role? How did you deal with your fear of failure?
- How do you handle feelings of inadequacy when facing new challenges?

Three Keys to Overcoming the Fear of Failure:

1. **Step out... take action.**

Joshua 1:7: “Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.” Overcoming the fear of failure involves taking bold action and stepping out of your comfort zone. God encourages us to be strong and courageous, as seen in Joshua 1:7, and to face our fears head-on. Like Peter walking on water, true success comes from taking faith-based risks, rather than staying safe and missing out on our potential. Your greatest fear: failure, often leads to Your greatest pain: which is regret.

- How can taking bold actions help you overcome your fear of failure and move towards your goals?
- Share a time when you took a risk that resulted in growth.

2. **Persist.**

Successful people don't give up and give in. They keep pressing until they experience breakthrough. The enemy wants you to quit. Most people quit right before their breakthrough. True persistence doesn't come from just your will... It comes from making a decision and standing on God's Word. It's a combination of your will and God's Word coming together. **Romans 10:17: So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.** The more you speak the Word and hear yourself speaking it builds your faith. This is where godly persistence comes from – it's the strength of God's Word coming out of your mouth and into your heart, life, and character. We need fuel and spiritual food to persist in our journey. Failure is the toll you pay on the road to success. Let's be people of persistence and spiritual grit.

- How does God's Word help you persist through challenges and setbacks? Give a personal example.

3. **Failure is an event, not a person.**

Joshua successfully led the Israelites into the Promised Land despite facing numerous challenges and failures. God encouraged him to be strong and courageous, reminding him that failure does not define us. Instead of fearing failure, we should see it as an opportunity for growth and learning. Failure is an event, not a personal trait, and embracing it helps us move forward toward success. When you do fail, Allow yourself to feel the disappointment, but not the disapproval. **Romans 5:3: We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance.**

- How can viewing failure as an event rather than a personal trait change your approach to challenges and setbacks?
- What strategies can you use to embrace failure and learn from it, rather than letting it define you?

LIFE CHALLENGE

Identify one area of your life where the fear of failure is holding you back and take a bold step toward it this week. Embrace any setbacks as opportunities for growth, and remember that failure is an event, not a reflection of your worth or potential.