FORWARD: MOVING FORWARD FROM FAILURE Pastor Dennis Rouse February 20-21, 2016

Philippians 3:13-14 NKJ

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

"The single most important difference between champion achievers and average people is their ability to handle rejection and failure."

"The increase in suicides, alcoholics, drug addiction, and even some forms of nervous breakdowns are evidence that many people are training for success when they should be training for failure." – *J. Wallace Hamilton (Leadership magazine)*

Ecclesiastes 7:20 GNT

There is no one on earth who does what is right all the time and never makes a mistake.

Moving Forward from Failure:

1. Accept responsibility.

MOVING BACKWARD:	MOVING FORWARD:
BLAMES OTHERS	ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY
REPEATS SAME MISTAKES	LEARNS FROM MISTAKES
FEARS FAILING AGAIN	UNDERSTANDS FAILURE IS PART OF PROCESS
ALLOWS PAST FAILURES	ALLOWS FAITH TO PUSH
TO PUT LID ON LIFE	THROUGH FAILURES

WORRIES THAT PEOPLE WILL VIEW THEM THROUGH FAILURES REALIZES GOD VIEWS THEM THROUGH THE LENS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

THINKS "I'M A FAILURE."

THINKS "I NEED TO DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY!"

2. See failure as temporary.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NKJ

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

"There is no doubt in my mind that there are many ways to be a winner, but there is only one way to be a loser and that is to fail and not look beyond your failures." – *Kyle Rote Jr.*

3. Stop comparing yourself to others.

2 Corinthians 10:12 NKJ

For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

Galatians 6:4 TLB

Let everyone be sure that he is doing his very best, for then he will have the personal satisfaction of work well done and won't need to compare himself with someone else.

4. Strengthen yourself in the Lord.

1 Samuel 30:1-6 NKJ

Now it happened, when David and his men came to Ziklag, on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the South and Ziklag,

attacked Ziklag and burned it with fire, and had taken captive the women and those who were there, from small to great; they did not kill anyone, but carried them away and went their way. So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with fire; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive. Then David and the people who were with him lifted up their voices and wept, until they had no more power to weep. And David's two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite, had been taken captive. Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.

Proverbs 24:16a NKJ

For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again...

5. Never give up on what God has placed in your heart.