

**First Church of God
March 23, 2014
Sermon Notes
Pastor Robert G. White**

**"Failure Isn't Final"
Exodus 6: 6-12**

6 "Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the Lord and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them and will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. 7 I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. 8 And I will bring you to the land I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the Lord.' " 9 Moses reposted this to the Israelites, but they did not listen to him because of their discouragement and cruel bondage. 10 Then the Lord said to Moses, 11 "Go, tell Pharaoh king of Egypt to let the Israelites go out of his country." 12 But Moses said to the Lord, "If the Israelites will not listen to me, why would Pharaoh listen to me, since I speak with faltering lips?"

INTRODUCTION

Successful people fail almost as much as unsuccessful people. Why does failure destroy some and build others up?

Using Failure to Your Advantage (A six step approach):

STEP 1. Concentrate on **success**.

Key: Those who concentrate on **failure** program themselves to fail.

STEP 2. See failure as a **friend** not an enemy.

STEP 3. Don't make failures a **monument**.

Key: Too many people when they fail **erect** a monument to their failure and **spend** the rest of their lives paying homage to it.

"Virtually nothing comes out right the first time." –Charles Kettering-

Monuments to failure:

- a. " I tried it and it didn't **work**."
- b. "They said it could not be done and they **were right**".
- c. "I **wish** I had done that."
- d. "I'll never **get hurt** again."
- e. "I can't **change**."

Failure Formula:

People fail in direct proportion to their willingness to make **excuses** for their failures.

Question: In what areas are you making excuses?

STEP 4. View Failure **inwardly**.

Satan's strategy: "Get Christians preoccupied with their failures. From there the battle is won. – C.S. Lewis, "Screwtape Letters"

How do you view your failures?

STEP 5. Use failure to your **benefit**.

Failures are benefits when:

1. Stirs us to keep **trying**.
2. We see our **mistakes** and are **willing** to change.
3. We discover our true **selves**.

STEP 6. Never **quit** because of failure.

"Too many never start because of failure; too few never quit because of failure" –Anonymous

CONCLUSION:

Key: It's sad to think life passes so many by because of their **fear** of failure.

"One thing I do; forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead...." - Philippians 3:13