

Dealing With Failure

As you attempt to live the kind of life that would please God, have you ever been so discouraged over some failure that you just wanted to give up and quit trying? Of course you have -- and so have we all. It is at times like this that we need to remind ourselves of the old adage: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again."

A Christian is not one who never stumbles, but one who gets up and starts walking again.

Consider the following experience in the life of an aspiring politician:

- 1831 failed in business
- 1832 defeated for legislature
- 1833 failed in business again
- 1836 suffered a nervous breakdown
- 1838 defeated for Speaker
- 1840 defeated for Elector
- 1843 defeated for Congress

- 1848 defeated for Congress again
- 1855 defeated for Senate
- 1856 defeated for Vice President
- 1858 defeated for Senate

Who was this man? He was a man who kept on trying, and in 1860 he was elected president of the United States and then went on to become one of the greatest presidents our country has ever had. His name? **Abraham Lincoln !**

The point is simply that, whether in material matters, or in the much more important spiritual affairs of our lives, ultimate success will only be found if we can overcome the momentary set-backs and failures which will come upon us from time to time.

We are exhorted by the apostle Paul: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (Gal 6:9)

Leonard White