

Failing Forward
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10



**No matter how
far you have gone
on the wrong road,
you can still turn
around.**

Turkish Proverb



WHAT SHOULD YOU DO WHEN I'VE REALLY BLOWN IT?

- **1 John 1:7-9** - 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

When I've failed Appeal to God for help.

- **Psalm 22:19** – But you, O LORD, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

When I've failed

Confess the sinful behavior.

- **1 John 1:9** - 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Accept God's Forgiveness

- **Psalms 130:3-4** - If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? 4 But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.
- **Daniel 9:9** - 9 To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him...

Give Thanks for His Mercy

- **Psalm 136:26** - Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever.
- **Psalm 51:14-15** - 14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

Forgive Myself

- **Psalm 51:12** - Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Remember,
when you
forgive, you heal.
And when you let go,
you grow.



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I HAVE BEEN RESTORED?

- **2 Corinthians 5:17** - 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

I Have a Change of Heart to a Pure Heart

- **Matthew 5:8** - 8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

I have a Change of Mind.


- **Romans 12:2** - 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

I have a Change of Direction.

- **Jeremiah 29:11** - 11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

I Can Live Faithfully by...

- **POSITIONAL LIVING** - I must live in Christ and His church.
- **PATTERN LIVING** - I must follow in the footsteps of my Lord.
- **PURPOSEFUL LIVING** - I must determine daily to walk in the path of faithfulness.
- **PRINCIPLED LIVING** - I must live by the standard of the Word of God.
- **PREPARED LIVING** - I must strive daily to grow and serve so as not to slip back into unfaithfulness.



**No Longer Captive to Past Sins
Jesus Set Me Free
My Future is Bright Serving the Lord**

But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14