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Have you ever considered the virtues of failure? Failure should be a learning experience. I've been told Edison burned up over 6,000 filaments as he was trying to invent a practical light bulb. When asked about his failures, he objected strongly. "We haven't failed! We've just learned another material isn't suitable."

There is a true story about a project manager at IBM who lost the company 10 million dollars. Dejectedly, he walked into the president's office and said, "I'm sorry. I'm sure you'll want my resignation. I'll be gone by the end of the day."

The president's response showed his understanding of the value of failure. He said, "Are you kidding? We've just invested 10 million dollars in your education. We're not about to let you go. Now get back to work."

Consider what these great men have said about failure:

Admiral Hyman G. Rickover said, "Success teaches us nothing; only failure teaches."

Thomas Watson, the founder of IBM, promised, "Success is on the far side of failure." He also observed, "If you want to double your success rate, double your failure rate."

Winston Churchill said, "Success is never final. Failure is never final. It is courage that counts."

F. D. Mattiesen observed, "Failure is the true test of greatness."

So, while we don't know for sure what the Master would have said to the one talent man if he would have tried and failed, I suspect this adage would have applied: "A friend is someone who, when you fail, doesn't think it's a permanent condition."

Alan Loy McGinnis, in his book, *Bringing Out the Best in People*, wrote: "Strong people make as many and as ghastly mistakes as weak people. The difference is that strong people admit them, laugh at them, learn from them. That is how they become strong."

Finally, Emilie Griffin believes, "The Lord loves us - perhaps most of all - when we fail and try again."



News & Prayer Requests

Chrissy, Marla and Chet's son-in-law's mother, has just been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. It is in her bones and there is a spot at the bottom of her lung. She broke her hip recently, so they are not able to do more extensive tests until she completes rehab. This sad news has effected the whole family, and they are asking for our prayers.

Please continue to pray for John's friend Paul and his wife Bernice, as Paul battles cancer in Washington state.

Brenda and Kim Staub were longtime members here before moving to work at a Christian boys' school/camp. Brenda can no longer care for Kim and together they decided to admit him into a care facility.

Let's continue to pray for Curtis in Pratt as he wrestles with cancer.

Don't forget to pray for little Emersyn, the daughter of Billy and Brianna Milton of Hudson.

A Place for Pictures

