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THE 5-STAGE PATTERN

1. Try something new
2. Fail
3. Learn
4. Adjust
5. Try something that works better

NIKE COMMERCIAL

“I’ve missed over 9,000 shots in my career. I’ve lost almost 300 games. Twenty six times I’ve been trusted to take the game winning shot...and missed. I’ve failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why...I succeed.” – Basketball legend Michael Jordan

FAMOUS FAILURES

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjYoKCBYag>

MATTHEW 25:24-25

“Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. SO I WAS AFRAID and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’”

WHO DOES GOD LOVE TO USE?

CASE STUDY #1 – MOSES - God loves to use the INSECURE.

EXODUS 4:10-12

“Moses said to the Lord, ‘Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.’ Then the Lord said to him, ‘Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak.’”

WHO DOES GOD LOVE TO USE?

CASE STUDY #2 – KING DAVID - God loves to use the UNLIKELY.

1 SAMUEL 16:6-7

“When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.’ But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.’”

PSALM 24:3-4

“Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? And who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.”

THE I AM DECLARATION

“I am what I AM says I am!”

WHO DOES GOD LOVE TO USE?

CASE STUDY #3 – PETER - God loves to use the FAILURES.

LUKE 22:59-60

“And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, ‘Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean.’ But Peter said, ‘Man, I do not know what you are talking about.’ And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.”

ACTS 2:38

“And Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”

THE BIG IDEA

"You have to step out to find out."

BETTER QUESTIONS TO ASK AFTER A FAILURE

1. What if this isn't the end but a new beginning?
2. What if the answer to my prayer is just over the next hill?
3. What if this is necessary in order for me to be prepared for the next important chapter in my life?
4. What if God knows exactly what I need at this particular time?
5. What if God is speaking to me through means I would not have chosen for a blessing I cannot see?
6. What does this experience make possible?
7. What will I be telling my grandchildren that I learned was so valuable in this season of my life?

FAILURE FACTOIDS

- Failure is an event, not a person.
- Failure is often the first step toward success.
- A person that has stopped failing has stopped growing.
- Failure is not an option, it is a necessity.
- If you fail and don't learn from it, you've failed twice. Don't waste a failure.

- The antidote to the fear of failure isn't success, but small doses of failure (Mark Batterson).
- Love never fails (1 Cor. 13:8).