

## **THE MIRACLE OF MERCY**

### **Part 2: God's Mercy and My Failures**

#### **What Causes our Failures? 3 Things Peter Did Wrong**

##### **1. We Overestimate Our Strength**

*"Peter declared, 'Even if everyone else deserts You, I never will'" (Matthew 26:33 NLT).*

*"Be careful. If you are thinking, 'Oh, I would never behave like that' – let this be a warning to you. For you, too, may fall into sin'" (1 Corinthians 10:12 LB).*

##### **2. We Fear the Disapproval of Others**

*"Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest...Those standing there went up to Peter and said, 'Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away.' Then he began to call down curses, and swore to them, 'I don't know the man!'" (Matthew 26:58, 73-74 NIV).*

##### **3. We Speak Without Thinking**

*"Peter began to curse and swear. 'I don't even know the man!' he said. And immediately the cock crowed" Matthew 26:74 LB).*

#### **What Should We Do When We Fail? 3 Things Peter Did Right**

##### **1. Grieve**

*"And immediately the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered...And he went away, crying bitterly" (Matthew 26:75 LB).*

*"My sacrifice is a humble spirit, O God; You will not reject a humble and repentant heart" (Psalm 51:17 GN).*

##### **2. Find Support**

*(Easter Morning): "(Mary Magdalene) went and found the disciples, who were grieving and weeping" (Mark 16:10 NLT).*

*"A week later the disciples were together again... (John 20:26 LB).*

##### **3. Cast Yourself on God's Mercy**

*"Because of His great mercy, He gave us new life by raising Jesus Christ from the dead. This fills us with a living hope" (1 Peter 1:3 GN).*

*"Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7 NIV).*

#### **What Does Jesus Do with Our Failures?**

##### **1. He Is Not Shocked**

*"God certainly knows what we are made of. He bears in mind that we are dust" (Psalm 103:14 GW).*

##### **2. He Prays for Us**

*"And so He is able, now and always, to save those who come to God through Him, because He lives forever to plead with God for them" (Hebrews 7:25 GN).*

*(continued)*

First Baptist Church of Hopewell

Pastor W. Darrell Boggs — August 17, 2025

**3. He Believes in Us**

*“And **when** you have turned back to Me again, strengthen your brothers” (Luke 22:32 NIV).*

**4. He Shows Us Mercy When We Are Down**

*“The Lord’s unfailing love and mercy still continue, fresh as the morning, as sure as the sunrise” (Lamentations 3:22-23 GN).*

**5. He Uses Our Failures to Build His Church**

*“So, when you have repented and turned to Me again, strengthen and build up the faith of your brothers” (Luke 22:32 LB).*