

## MOSES PART VII

### “FAILING FORWARD”

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NUMBERS 20:1-13, 2 CORINTHIANS 12:8-10

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#### INTRODUCTION

- Failure will always start in the heart.

#### I. START IN THE HEART - Numbers 20:1-13

- Moses and Israelites have wandered in the desert for 40 years. Even at the end, people are still complaining.
- When hardship comes what's your first move?
- Numbers 20:6-9, "Moses and Aaron...fell face down on the ground. Then the glorious presence of the Lord appeared to them, <sup>7</sup> and the Lord said...<sup>8</sup>"You and Aaron must take the staff and assemble the entire community...speak to the rock over there, and it will pour out its water...<sup>9</sup> So Moses did as he was told ..."
- Numbers 20:10-13, "...Moses raised his hand and struck the rock twice with the staff..."
- When we fail to listen and respond to the heart of God inevitably we injure ourselves and others.
- Moses failed because he forced something from the past into the present.
- When it really counts has God ever not been enough?

#### II. GETTING LOST ALONG THE WAY

- When life gets hard who we really are is always revealed.
- Moses forfeited his future when he relied on the past instead of being present with God.
- Moses relied on what worked in the past but God wanted to do something new.

- The motivation of the heart is always the forerunner to failure.
- God does what God always does, He redeems.

#### III. AVOIDING FAILURE

- Can't avoid failure! It's ok to fail!
- Failure is always a gateway to grow.
- Failure comes from the heart so we will always struggle and fail.
- What do we do with the moments we fail?
- Do we invite God to search us, to show us what is inside?
- Moses' anger had subsided, but it was still present.
- No formula for the future can be made out of a moment with God. God wants to do something new.
- Repeating the past rarely moves forward in the future.

#### IV. FIXING FAILURE

- There's always a face attached to our failure!
- Admit we are wrong.
- Ask for forgiveness.
- Listen for feedback.
- What will you do different to protect the future from the same failure?
- Failure is never the end.
- 2 Corinthians 12:8-10, "...My power works best in weakness..."

#### CLOSE

- Failure doesn't have to define us you. Failure is the place He can work best.
- Healing always comes through experiencing God's goodness, and gracious mercy!