Pastor's Weekly Devotional - May 15th, 2014 "Failure"

For those who must live with failure, the guarantee of a new start is a promise "written in stone" of a new life without pain or tears promised by God Almighty.

It is easy to think that in times of failure God is not with you. But that is not so. The Apostle Paul lists a number of things in <u>Romans</u> 8: 38, 39 reminding us that nothing we experience in life will separate us from the love of God.

Remember that Life itself is not contingent on success or failure, physical or emotional pain. The musician Asaph declared: "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the Strength of my heart and my Portion forever" (Psalm 73:26).

So, failure does not mean that all hope is lost. God is always present with us even in the bad times.

Failure reminds us to look beyond this life. For those who must live with failure, God guarantees a new order of things. A life without pain, tears or regrets. God "will wipe every tear from your eyes. There will be no more...mourning or crying or pain" (Revelations 21:4).

Failure reminds us of our mortality. We are frail creatures. We are dust (<u>Genesis</u> 3: 14), and grass (<u>Isaiah</u> 40: 6-8). Disappointment, discouragement and pain accompany every human being. But in the midst of pain and hurt, be aware that God loves you; that He is present in your suffering and He promises that a day is coming that includes no failure.

Peter failed but was restored by God and became God's mouthpiece at Pentecost! Moses committed murder as he tried to deliver Israel in his own strength. Still, in the end, he was God's man for the job.

So continue with earnestness to serve the Lord in every circumstance in life including failure. There may be rougher weather ahead of you but be confident of this fact – the promise of the Lord Jesus Christ: "I will never leave you nor forsake you" even in times of defeat, despair and failures.

Have a blessed week! See you in church Sunday!

Pastor Sewdin