



FACING FAILURE WITH UNSHAKEABLE FAITH

“While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”³ So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

⁴ The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there to Cyprus. ⁵ When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish synagogues. John was with them as their helper.”

Acts 13:2-5

“Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing.”³⁷ Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them,³⁸ but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work.³⁹ They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus,⁴⁰ but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord.

Acts 15:36-50

The Big Idea

With God _____ doesn't have to be _____

The Key to Facing Failure with Unshakable Faith

Cultivating an _____ community that...

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

Memory Verse
“for though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes.”
Proverbs 24:16

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Trust in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior for the first time
- Memorize Proverbs 24:16
- Ask God to show me who in my life could use a Barnabas to come along side and encourage them
- Begin to cultivate an unshakable community by signing up for a LIFE Group
- Get the most out of the weekend’s teaching by attending my LIFE Group this week



Be sure and invite a friend, family member or co-worker to join you next week at ERBC!
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Discussion Questions - Week # 1

LIFEGROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the sermon this weekend "Facing Failure with Unshakeable Faith," in a sentence or two summarize the main point.

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

GETTING STARTED

1. What is something happening in your life about which you're currently excited?
2. As you spend time getting to know everyone in your group, share something that you desire to get out of this LIFE Group semester.
3. Share an example of a failure in your life that actually turned out to be a good thing?

DIGGING DEEPER

4. Read Ecclesiastes 4:7-12. How do you think verse eight applies to our contemporary culture?

If a life of loneliness and busyness is meaningless, why do you think it's so tempting for many to live that way?

How have you experienced the support discussed in v.9-12?

What are different ways you can put verses 9-12 into practice this LIFE Group semester?

5. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:11 and Hebrews 3:13. Share an example of a time when someone encouraged you?

Would you prefer to receive words of encouragement or give words of encouragement?

Do you find that the different spheres of your life (work, family, friendships, etc.) are naturally encouraging or discouraging?

What could you do to become a more encouraging person?

6. Read Ephesians 4:1-16. How do you think we "bear with one another in love" (v.2) and "keep the unity of the Spirit" (v.3) while at the same time "speaking truth in love"?

How would you practically approach speaking "truth in love" to someone in your life?

How do we fulfill Paul's command without seeming like someone who just goes around judging everyone else for their sins?

TAKING IT HOME

7. Who is someone in your life that could use your encouragement this week, and what words could you share with them?

8. What is one thing in your life that you would like your LIFE Group to pray for you regularly this LIFE Group semester?

PRAYER REQUESTS