

“How to Fall” or “Confidence for Walking”

Tuesday Night Bible Study



When my kids were learning to walk, one of the very first things I taught them was how to fall. Knowing how to fall is crucial for good, confident walking, and for walking without fear.

Like children learning to walk, we are going to fall. How does our Father want us to respond to and deal with falling?

SCRIPTURES:

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| <> 1 John 1:9 | <> John 10:10 |
| <> Joel 2:12-13 | <> Psalm 103:8-13 |
| <> Romans 8:1-2 | <> Isaiah 43:25 |
| <> John 21:1-17 | <> Matthew 5:23-24 |

John 21 – Jesus restores Peter after a huge fall (Peter denied that He knew Christ three times!). “Don’t turn to more sin for comfort. Turn to Me for comfort & restoration. Love Me with your actions towards others. Continue in your calling. Continue to do what I’ve called you to do. Don’t turn your back on the calling I have given you, just because you made a mistake.”

When runners compete in a race, if they fall, they don’t have to go back to where they started; they get back up, and continue on from the point they fell.

What would’ve happened to Christianity if Peter really had quit fishing for men... if he had just allowed his fall to defeat him, and he returned to his old life at sea?



Judgment & critique & condemnation & blame – these are all toys you play with in the accuser’s playground. But in the Father’s playground, you play with thankfulness, gratitude, and freedom. Self-judgment keeps you in the accuser’s playground.

You’re fighting yourself! – but your fight is not with you – with flesh and blood – but with powers and dark forces and evil principalities.

It is poisonous to try to deal with your sin by going into a place of self-condemnation. That is not your identity. It’s a lie. You have the mind of Christ! The love of God for you **has not changed**. Call out your sin for what it is. Then confess it to God in repentance, and move forward in His indelible love for you.

Come to the place where you can very quickly take your eyes off self and lift them up to your Daddy and who you are in Him. Through self-condemnation, you are becoming the accuser. Quickly become the thankful one – take yourself as quickly as you can to a place of gratitude with Papa.

When my son makes a mistake – when he sins – what do I want him to do? As his father, what do I desire from my son after he sins? That he

- (1) be honest – talk to me about it,**
- (2) take responsibility to make it right, and**
- (3) move on, confident in my unchanged love for and approval of him.**