

FAILING FORWARD

SAMSON, Part 4

Pastor Ken Ritz * July 8, 2012 * New Life Vineyard Church

A Man's Greatest Fear: _____
Greatest Pain: _____

A Failure Is An Event, Never A Person.

Just Because I'm Down, I'm Not _____ !

Now the rulers of the Philistines assembled to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to celebrate, saying, "Our god has delivered Samson, our enemy, into our hands." When the people saw [Samson], they praised their god, saying, "Our god has delivered our enemy into our hands, the one who laid waste our land and multiplied our slain." While they were in high spirits, they shouted, "Bring out Samson to entertain us." So they called Samson out of the prison, and he performed for them.

Judges 16:23-25

TWO RESPONSES TO FAILURE

- **The Natural Response: Remorse.**
- **The Better Response: _____.**

...When they stood him among the pillars. Samson said to the servant who held his hand, "Put me where I can feel the pillars that support the temple, so that I may lean against them..." Then Samson prayed to the Lord, "O Sovereign Lord, remember me. O God, please strengthen me just once more..."

Judges 16:25-26, 28

Even In My _____, God Can Still Accomplish His Purposes.

Then Samson reached toward the two central pillars on which the temple stood. Bracing himself against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other, 30 Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines!" Then he pushed with all his might, and down came the temple on the rulers and all the people in it. Thus he killed many more when he died than while he lived.

Judges 16:29-30

Moving Forward

1) What Pillars Are You Pushing Down?

2) How Are You Going To Do It?

For though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again.

Proverbs 24:16

"Homework"

- Think of a failure you've experienced. Did you respond more with remorse or repentance?
- How have you seen God accomplish His purposes in the midst of your failures?
- What pillars are you pushing down? How are you going to do it?