

Fail Forward!

Following in the Footsteps of Mark

Lesson 4 • Colossians 4:10-11

Colossians 4:7-18 reminds us that our ministry to others is the overflow of our relationship with Christ. 12 people are mentioned by name. Each one sought to **make their mark for eternity**. We are **following in the footsteps of those who fulfilled their ministries**, so we too can make our mark for eternity!

Follow in the Footsteps of Mark ~ Colossians 4:10-11

_____ to fulfill your ministry from the Lord!

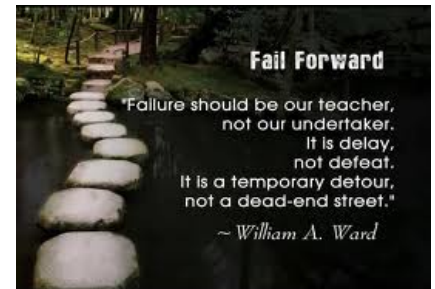
A Man Who Made His Mark: John Mark (Marcus) = "The LORD is gracious" and "Warrior"

- Mark is mentioned in **8 or 9 passages** of the Bible: Acts 12:12, 25; 13:5, 13; 15:37-39; Colossians 4:10; 2Timothy 4:11; Philemon 24; 1Peter 5:13; Mark 14:51(?)
- He enjoyed the privilege of serving alongside three of the most influential men in the NT: *Peter, Barnabas, and Paul*
- He is Paul's only co-worker, other than Luke, who wrote one of the four gospels!
- He shares the honor with Timothy, Luke, and Tychicus of being mentioned by Paul at the end of his life. 2Timothy 4:9-12
- Mark is one of God's _____!

*Failure is not the lack of success; it is staying down when you fall.
Failure can become your stepping-stone to success.*

How Did Mark Make His Mark in spite of Failing?

He chose to let failure _____ him rather than define him!



Make Your Mark: Fail Forward to Fulfill Your Ministry!

Four Facts for Failing Forward

FACT #1 No One _____ to Be a Failure.

Mark's Promising Start in Life

- 1) _____ with a godly mother, Mary. Acts 12:11-12
- 2) _____ to Christ by the apostle Peter. 1Peter 5:13
- 3) _____ at the feet of several men who made their mark in ministry. Colossians 4:10; Philemon 24

*Be led to Christ to today! It is the only way to overcome the greatest failure of all—falling short of the glory of God!
Do life together in a **GrowGroup** with others who are making their mark in ministry for eternity.
Learn from others here in the **New Life Class** during the Discovery Hour and through **GROW 1-on-1 Discipleship**.*

FACT #2 Failure Does Not Have to _____.

Mark's Famous Failure in Life

1) Potential Success: _____ as useable & potentially useful by cousin Barnabas and Saul (= Paul). Acts 12:25; 13:1-13

Mark Goes Along as...

- A **helper** who meets their needs and serves them as they carry out their mission.
- An **apprentice** who is learning what needs to be done from his mentors with no concern for personal dignity or worth.
- A **discipler** who takes care of the scrolls (OT Scriptures & collected "sayings of Jesus") and teaches new converts. (Luke 1:2; Acts 26:16)

Why Do We Let Failure Become Final and Define Us?

- _____ often overwhelms us.
- _____ sometimes clash.
- _____ wins out.
- _____ are not met.

2) Perceived Failure: _____ as unusable & probably useless by Paul (= Saul) but not Barnabas. Acts 15:36-41

Who Was Right and Who Was Wrong?

Who Determined Mark's Future?

Mark Made the Right Choice When Faced with Failure:

He chose to let it **refine** him and not **define** him!

He chose to let it his failure be a **stepping-stone** to success for the Lord!

