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SESSION 1: RISK AND FAILURE

Quotes

“I’ve noticed an interesting quality in leaders... that is, they are absolutely, completely, willing to fail. ... They’re willing to try things that others have never tried.”

“There was a church built on faith-risks. These wild and crazy believers they were willing to try all sorts of things. Sometimes they succeeded. Sometimes they failed. When they failed, they learned from it. ”

Quoting Mark Batterson, “The antidote for the fear of failure, it’s not success, but it’s small doses of failure.”

“Failure is not an option. It’s an absolute necessity. You must be willing to fail. ... Often what works was born out of what didn’t work.”

Notes

Often leaders who have “it” succeed. Sometimes they fail, but they learn from the failure. Leaders who don’t have “it” often are afraid to take risk and possibly fail.

Refers to Matthew 25, parable of talents. The 2 guys who had 5 and 2 [talents], they were willing to fail. They took a risk.

Failing is often a big part of success. Think about learning how to ride a bike.

Peter often failed, e.g. arguing with Jesus, three times denying Christ. When Peter experienced the grace of Jesus after his failure, he was able to preach in a way that few others could.

Sometimes you have to try and fail and learn and adjust.

Try. Fail. Learn. Adjust.

Through your failures, God can do something special.

4 Suggestions:

1. **Create a culture that allows for failure.**
When you try a new venture, call it an “experiment.”
2. **Don’t internalize failures.**
Failing at something does not mean that you are a failure.
3. **Debrief.**
Learn from your mistakes.
4. **Don’t give up.**
The only thing standing between you and the next level of ministry success might be a failure, where you learn something. Don’t be afraid.

Links

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[Craig’s blog](#)

Select Books by Craig Groeschel

- [*It: How Churches and Leaders Can Get It and Keep It*](#)
- [*Confessions of a Pastor: Adventures in Dropping the Pose and Getting Real with God*](#)
- [*Chazown: A Different Way to See Your Life*](#)