

“IT’S NEVER TOO LATE TO START OVER”
Pastor David Brown
Message Notes – Sunday, September 9, 2007

Key verse:

“My days have passed, my plans are shattered, and so are the desires of my heart.” Job 17:11 (NIV)

I. FIVE THINGS THAT CAUSE FAILURE (from the Book of Proverbs)

1. WE FAIL WHEN WE DON’T PLAN AHEAD

“A sensible man watches for problems ahead and prepares to meet them. The simpleton never looks, and suffers the consequences.” Proverbs 27:12 (LB)

“We should make plans – counting on God to direct us.” Proverbs 16:9 (LB)

2. WE FAIL WHEN WE THINK WE’VE ARRIVED

“Pride leads to destruction and arrogance to downfall.” Proverbs 16:18 (GN)

“Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.” Proverbs 15: 22 (NIV)

3. WE FAIL WHEN WE’RE AFRAID TO TAKE RISKS

“Fear of man is a dangerous trap, but to trust in God means safety.” Proverbs 29:25 (LB)

4. WE FAIL BECAUSE WE GIVE UP TOO SOON

“A lazy fellow has trouble all through life...” Proverbs 15: 19 (LB)

5. WE FAIL BECAUSE WE DON’T LISTEN TO GOD

“There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.” Proverbs 14:12 (NIV)

II. HOW TO GET A FRESH START IN LIFE

1. ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY OWN FAILURE

“He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.”

Proverbs 28:13 (NIV)

2. STOP REGRETTING AND START REPENTING

“...the sadness that is used by God brings a change of heart that leads to salvation – and there is no regret in that! But worldly sadness causes death.”

2 Corinthians 7:10 (GN)

3. FORGET THE PAST AND FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

“Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV)

4. TRUST GOD TO WORK IT ALL OUT

“...we know that to those who love God, who are called according to His plan, everything that happens fits into a pattern for good.”

Romans 8:28 (Ph)

“For if a man is in Christ he becomes a new person altogether – the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new.”

2 Corinthians 5:17 (Ph)