

The Failure's Hall of Fame (Failures Who Succeeded)

"When we see successful people, we often assume that they got all the breaks, that they were always in the right place at the right time, that they have never failed, never been rejected. If the truth were known, very few people accomplish anything worthwhile the first time they attempt it. In fact, even the most successful people generally have a checkerboard career of both success and failure." (Richard Exley, "Blue Collar Christianity")

1. Diligence

- **Col 3:23** And whatsoever ye do, **do it heartily**, as to the Lord, and not unto men;
- **Ecc 9:10** Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, **do it with thy might**; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.
- **Prov 10:4** He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the **hand of the diligent** maketh rich.
- **Prov 12:24** The **hand of the diligent** shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.
- **Prov 13:4** The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the **soul of the diligent** shall be made fat.
- **Prov 21:5** The **thoughts of the diligent** tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.
- **Prov 22:29** Seest thou a man **diligent in his business**? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.
- **Prov 4:23** **Keep thy heart with all diligence**; for out of it are the issues of life.
- **Prov 24:16(NIV)** for though a righteous man falls seven times, **he rises again**, but the wicked are brought down by calamity.

2. God's Ability

- **Phil 4:13** **I can do all things** through Christ which strengtheneth me.
- **1 Cor 1:4-7** I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: So that ye **come behind in no gift**; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:

- **Eph 1:17-19** That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may **give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation** in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to **the working of his mighty power,**
- **1 Pet 4:10-11** As **every man hath received the gift,** even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.
- **Ps 144:1** Blessed be **the LORD my strength,** which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight:
- **John 15:4-5** Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that **abideth in me,** and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.
- **John 15:7** If ye **abide in me,** and my words abide in you, ye shall **ask what ye will,** and it shall be done unto you.
- **Ps 18:29** For by thee I have **run through a troop;** and by my God have I **leaped over a wall.**
- **Rom 8:37** Nay, in all these things **we are more than conquerors** through him that loved us.
- **Phil 4:19** But my God shall **supply all your need** according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Failure's Hall of Fame

Albert Einstein - was four years old before he could speak and seven before he could read.

Isaac Newton - did poorly in grade school.

Beethoven's - music teacher once said of him, "as a composer you are hopeless".

Thomas Edison - as a boy his teachers told him he was too stupid to learn anything.

F.W. Woolworth - got a job in a dry goods store when he was 21, but his employers would not let him wait on a customer because he "didn't have enough sense."

Walt Disney - was fired by a newspaper editor because he didn't have any good ideas.

Caruso's - music teacher told him, "You can't sing. You have no voice at all.

Madame Schumann-Heink - was told by the director of the Imperial Opera in Vienna that she would never be a singer and advised her to buy a sewing machine.

Leo Tolstoy - flunked out of college.

Werner Von Braun - flunked ninth grade algebra.

Admiral Richard E. Byrd - had been retired from the Navy as unfit for service until he flew over both poles.

Louis Pasteur - was rated as mediocre in chemistry when he attended the Royal College.

Abraham Lincoln - entered the Black Hawk war as a captain and came out as a private.

Louisa May Alcott - was told by an editor that she could never write anything that had popular appeal.

Fred Waring - was once rejected from high school chorus.

Winston Churchill - failed the sixth grade.

Robert Frost - had been writing poetry for over twenty years receiving endless rejection slips. He was 39 before he ever sold his first volume of poetry. His perseverance paid off. His poems have been published in twenty-two languages and he was a four-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize for poetry.

Alexander Graham Bell - was a failure suffering one humiliating setback after another. He spent much of his life being laughed at and ridiculed as he crisscrossed New England trying to raise venture capital for the production of his new invention. Today nobody laughs at Bell.