

Thought for the day – Thursday 11th August 2022

By Revd John Marshall

Soul Fuel Fortress from Failure

Maggie has been reading Bear Grylls' book Soul Fuel and she was struck by what he had to say about failure.

(I have a sort of motto 'If at first you don't succeed give up.' But I think Bear's is better.

At some point in your life, you're going to fail big-time, especially if you set yourself significant goals or follow your calling towards some big old mountains. Failure will be part of your journey. Don't fear it, embrace it.

Failure means you are making progress. It is one of many doorways you must pass through on your way to success. But failure, rejection, mockery and humiliation hurt.

At times like these, it's good to remember the words of people like David who failed spectacularly and regularly. He was a man who knew all about God's redemption, love and grace.

"When I said, 'My foot is slipping', your unfailing love, Lord. Supported me. When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy....

But the Lord has become my fortress, and my God the rock in whom I take refuge." Psalm 94 18-19, 22

We can always turn to God for help and comfort in our failures. The power of failure evaporates in His presence. The love of Christ never runs out, and it always encourages us. Our well of resolve is limitless when we have him as our cup.

- Bear Grylls Soul Fuel Hodder

It is good to remember that if we look at the life, death and resurrection of Jesus our ideas of failure and success are transformed.