



This old truck had long been abandoned on the side of the road near Pisgah, Alabama. Year after year it had sat here rusting away as the weeds and brush grew up around it. At times it was not even visible from the highway, though it only sat about 50 feet off the road. Then one day as I passed by, I noticed that someone was able to clear the debris and underbrush that had long held this truck captive.

I imagine that if this truck could talk, it would tell a story of a useful life lived out on a farm until the day he met some disaster head on. I can hear him tell of giving up all hope of his once useful condition; listen as he laments his sad circumstances of being of no value to anyone now. I am a failure, my life is a wreck and I am the laughing stock of all who pass by.

Have you ever felt that way? Have you ever tasted the salty tears of regret? Have you ever looked back over your life and felt foolish over a mistake you have made? Has disaster met you head on and suddenly changed your life forever? Do you feel like a failure today? If so, congratulations; this could be the start of something wonderful; because it is often our failures that teach us how to accomplish something truly great.

A failure is a person who has blundered but is not able to cash in on the experience. Often the doorway to success is entered through the hallway of failure. The question is not, have I fallen, but will I get up and learn from my mistakes? If you have made mistakes, even serious mistakes, there is always another chance for you. And supposing you have tried and failed again and again, you may have a fresh start any moment you choose, for this thing that we call "failure" is not the falling down, but the staying down.

Today, we are giving this old truck another chance at usefulness. Let us look at it and realize that no matter where we are today, we do not have to stay here; choose to get back up and do better. We do not have to allow defeat and failure to be final in our lives. You can start over today and live out your dreams. What are you waiting on?

**Something to think about:**

- With the right attitude, all the problems in the world will not make you a failure. With the wrong mental attitude, all the help in the world will not make you a success.
- A failure is not someone who has tried and failed; it is someone who has given up trying and resigned himself to failure; it is not a condition, but an attitude.
- Our Father in heaven . . . help us to see that it is better to fail in a cause that will ultimately succeed than to succeed in a cause that will ultimately fail.
- Those who have failed miserably are often the first to see God's formula for success.
- Failure is not falling down; it is remaining there when you have fallen.
- Our mistakes won't completely destroy our lives unless we let them.

Thankful for second chances  
Rickey Moore

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