



Matthew 26:31-35

Matt. 26:31 Then Jesus said to them, “All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written:

‘I will strike the Shepherd,
And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’

Matt. 26:32 But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee.”

Matt. 26:33 Peter answered and said to Him, “Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.”

Matt. 26:34 Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.”

Matt. 26:35 Peter said to Him, “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!” And so said all the disciples.

Observations & Discussion

1. Use a dictionary to look up the words “fail” and “failure” and in the space below write the definitions.

2. Based on the above definitions what are the areas of life that you would not want to fail at, or be considered a failure? Why?

3. Read vss. 31-32 and answer the following:

Who will “strike the Shepherd”?

Who is the “Shepherd”?

Who are the “sheep”?

4. The word “stumble” in vs. 31 can also be translated in the following ways:

“You will all fall away because of me this night...” ESV

“Tonight every one of you will lose his faith in me...” JB Phillips

“Tonight all of you will desert me....” NLT

Jesus knew that His closest friends and chosen apostles would fail to stand with Him in His hour of greatest need. Yet, in vs. 32 Jesus told them that after He rose from the dead He would meet them in Galilee.

Why would Jesus still choose to have a relationship with men that He knew would fail Him?

What does this tell you about Jesus’ relationship with you?

5. Jesus knew that despite Peter’s promise to never fail Him (vss. 33-35) that he would in fact fail, and fail miserably. Why do you think God allowed Peter to fail?

6. Why do you think God allows you to fail? What value can failure produce in your life?