

**Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont**  
**Pastor: Pastor Dwight Benoit**  
**Sunday School Superintendent: Ordained Minister Samuel O. Simon**  
**Assistant Superintendent: Deacon Jordan Benoit**  
**January 20, 2026, to January 25, 2026**  
[www.magnoliambc.org](http://www.magnoliambc.org)

**Theme Unit: Enduring Beliefs of the Church**

**Unit II: Grace and Reconciliation**

**Subject: If at First you Don't Succeed, you're Probably Human**

**Printed Text: Matthew 4: 18-20; 16: 16-18; John 21: 15-18; 2 Peter 3: 14-15, 18**

**Key verse: He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, loves thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, LORD, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep (John 21: 17, KJV).**

**Lesson Pointers:**

- 1) Stumbling and Rising (Matthew 4: 18-20; 16: 16-18; John 21: 15-18)
- 2) The Remedy for Stumbling (2 Peter 3: 14-15, 18)

**Introduction:**

There are those who call themselves perfectionists; folks who aim high and expect to reach every goal they set their minds to do. But yet these same perfectionists still makes mistakes, they battle doubts, they criticize themselves, they feel like failures, and suffer painful emotions. You see the reality is that no one avoids mistakes, no matter how gifted, skilled, or faithful they are. This all stems back to Adam and Eve, their choice to disobey GOD allowed sin into the world, which damaged human nature, and set all humanity on a broken road. Now because of the fall in the garden, despite of our faith and our devotion, we will all slip up and disappoint GOD, others, and ourselves. Even though we may stumble, on purpose, or accidently, the question now becomes, how do we recover, what do we learn from stumbling, and how do we repair our every walk with GOD. You see, the answer is simple, we human beings are to bring all our wounds to Jesus Christ and start over again (Read Matthew 11: 28-30). It is noted that Peter, Jesus Christ's closest disciples and friends had many highs and lows. Peter even swore that he did not know Jesus Christ because of his fear for his life. But Jesus Christ used Peter's failure to help Peter to grow in the faith of Jesus Christ. Now after Jesus Christ renewed their friendship, Peter learned to keep moving forward, day by day, in the grace and knowledge of our LORD and SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST (See 2 Peter 3: 18).

**Lesson Pointer # 1**

- Stumbling and Rising (Matthew 4: 18-20; 16: 16-18; John 21: 15-18)

Now as Jesus Christ was walking by the sea of Galilee, HE saw two brethren, and Jesus Christ called Peter and Andrew his brother, while they were casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers (Matthew 4: 18). Jesus Christ said unto them, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed HIM (Matthew 4: 19-20). Jesus Christ Mission was to make them fishers of men. All who have been called by Jesus Christ are to become fishers of men to witness the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and not to be fishermen. Peter's proclamation to Jesus Christ's question, "whom say ye that I am?" Peter response was, "Thou art the Christ, the SON of the Living GOD (Matthew 16: 16). Now Jesus Christ answer to Peter's proclamation was, "Blessed art

thou, Simon Barjona; for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven (Matthew 16: 17).” Jesus Christ goes on to say unto Peter, “That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it (Matthew 16: 18).” Now Peter most painful failure came when he publicly denied knowing Jesus Christ three times before the Crucifixion, because of fear. But after Jesus Christ’s resurrection, Jesus Christ graciously confronted Peter’s denial, not to condemn Peter but to restore Peter; Asking Peter three times, “Do you love me?” This mirrored Peter’s three times denial, and Jesus Christ restored, and recommissioned Peter. Jesus Christ charged Peter to feed and tend HIS sheep, this revealed the true love of Jesus Christ’s expression in caring for others actively and compassionately (John 21: 15-17). Jesus Christ prophesies that the freedom that Peter had as a youth, you dressed yourself and went where you wanted: but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go (John 21: 18). This says, or, applies to Peter’s love and obedience to Jesus Christ would one day cost Peter his life, death by crucifixion. Peter would proclaim Jesus Christ’s gospel at a young age and go where ever he wanted to go, proclaiming Jesus Christ’s Gospel; but when he is old because of the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ that Peter proclaims, he would be led by others to a place of death where he does not want to go. Note, that as Christians we will stumble, and even fail but we will rise, because of the grace and knowledge of our LORD and SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

**If at First You Don’t Succeed, You’re Probably Human!**

**Lesson Pointer # 2**

- **The Remedy for Stumbling (2 Peter 3: 14-15, 18)**

The remedy for stumbling is to live in peace, and to grow in Grace: Peter’s spiritual journey as a disciple of Jesus Christ is a powerful example of perseverance and growth. Peter learned that he do not waste the mercy of GOD that he had received; saying, “Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of HIM in peace, without spot, and blameless (2 Peter 3: 14).” Now, Peter, reminds us that the delay of Jesus Christ’s return is not divine neglect but divine patience which is rooted in love. The same message that Paul proclaimed; both Peter and Paul understood the long suffering grace of Jesus Christ in their own lives (2 Peter 3: 15). Then Peter closed his message by stating that believers are to keep growing in the grace and knowledge of our LORD and Savior JESUS CHRIST; this is the remedy for stumbling, and learning from our mistakes. In doing so we are to give Jesus Christ the glory due unto HIM, now and forever (2 Peter 3: 18).

**If at First You Don’t Succeed, You’re Probably Human!**

**Nuggets of the Lesson:**

- 1) **We as Christians will make mistakes, spiritually or otherwise.**
- 2) **We struggle with our human nature, even with good intentions, we sometime fail.**
- 3) **We as Christians are to keep growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.**
- 4) **We Christians are to take care of and help other believers to grow in their faith in Jesus Christ.**
- 5) **We Christians are to bring all our burdens to Jesus Christ and to learn of HIM, for HIS yoke is easy, and HIS burden is light (Read Matthew 11: 28-30).**