



From Ruin to Restoration – September 2021

Acts 13:1-5,6a,13 & 2 Timothy 4:9-12 NIV

John Mark deserted Barnabas and Paul on their first missionary journey. (Acts 13:13 NIV)

1. Think of a time when you faced a challenge and failed to live up to the expectations of others or yourself.
 - a. Did you lack the commitment needed to see it through?
 - b. Were you too immature to be counted on?
 - c. Was your initial motivation self-centered?
 - d. Were you already in the habit of seeking the easy way out?

2. "It is better to risk and fail than to succeed at doing nothing for the Lord." Recount a time when you attempted something for the Lord and failed.
 - a. What did you learn about yourself?
 - b. What did you learn about others?
 - c. What did you learn about the Lord?
 - d. What risk are you taking for the Lord right now?

3. One of the powerful ministries available in the Church today is to encourage those who have fallen short and restore them to usefulness, like Paul did with John Mark.
 - a. Have you personally experienced this restoration?
 - b. Have you lifted someone from failure to usefulness?
 - c. Name someone you have dismissed as not being dependable. What restorative action might you take?

