

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



105 Hello Failure, My Old Friend...

Have you failed much in your life? Have jobs, businesses, investments, or relationships ever turned upside down for you? I'm Jerry Roberts and whether you know failure on an intimate basis, or the next time will be your first time, let's chew it over, today, on The Extra Point.

I just paused to take a second look at that list I just ran off... jobs, businesses, investments, and relationships...and I've failed in every single one of those categories. Oww. I guess I didn't realize how big a failure I've been.

How about you? Have you had some of these areas go into the "loss column" for you as well?

Is it possible for us to feel intimate with failure, like I suggested a moment ago? Should we get intimate with it?

I'm thinking about that and the first line of an old Simon and Garfunkel song is playing in my head. The lyrics are different... "Hello failure, my old friend...I've come to talk with you again."

When we succeed we want to share it with who? Everybody. When we fail, it's private.

And I wonder if we've got that backwards. Maybe we should exercise humility and hide our successes, while publicly owning up that we failed at something. We messed up.

Why internalize it and let it weigh us down? Life isn't perfect, even though we work very hard to create Facebook and Instagram profiles that make it...seem so. Oooh, too personal? Sorry.

Here's what I want you to do right now. If you're in your car put your window down...or wherever you are... shout to nobody in particular, "I'm a failure and I don't care." Right now. "I'm a failure and I don't care." Go ahead, do it. I'll wait.

You did it? Did it feel good? Here's the thing. The people who listen to this station just joined you in a cranium-clearing, attitude-adjusting exercise designed to lift your spirits and make you feel like a person who is worthy of great success.

Oh, you didn't do it? It would have been embarrassing? People might have thought you're strange? Well, as the saying goes, those who matter don't mind, and those who mind don't matter. But I digress.

Some people say to forget about our failures. Absolutely not, and here's why: the older, more experienced, and hopefully wiser we become, our failures will become clearer to us. Are you picking this up? When we failed we saw it on one level, based upon who we were then. After getting further down the road and learning more about life, relationships, money, and business, we'll likely understand those mistakes on a much deeper level. If so, we should do better if confronted by similar circumstances again — and be able to help others who can benefit from our experiences. That's why we need to share our failures.

One part of success in this life is coping with, learning from, and using failure as a tool for creating success. So, yes, get intimate with it. Understand it. It's just an event in our lives. It doesn't define us and it's not like some kind of ID. Unless we decide to make it that. And we won't.

That's The Extra Point. Get out there and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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