

July 4 and 5, 2009

“Learning From the Failures of Others”

1 Corinthians 10:1-13, pg 811

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- :1 Our forefathers had God’s clear leading and guidance.
- :2-4 They experienced signs and miracles *every day!*
See Exodus 13-14; 16-17.
- :5 But miracles were not enough to keep them trusting God.
“God was not pleased with most of them ...”
- :6, 11 We must learn from the failures of others.
“Dwell on the past and you’ll lose an eye; forget the past and you’ll lose both eyes” – Old Russian Proverb.
- :7 See Exodus 32. Idolatry while Moses was on Mt. Sinai!
- :8 See Numbers 25. An invitation they should have refused.
- :9 See Exodus 17; Numbers 21. They accused God of not caring and abandoning them.
- :10 See Numbers 16. They accused God of being too harsh and unfair in judging.
- :12 Beware! If others quit trusting God, you could too.
- :13 Your situation and problems are not unique. You are not the first. This is not too big for you and a faithful God. You can remain standing and faithful.

What is the “*way out*” that God provides?

1. **Recognize** the spiritual battle against a terrible enemy (Ephesians 6:10-18).
2. **Learn** a new way of thinking about your situation.
“Be transformed by the renewing of your mind”
(Romans 12:1-2).

“Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope” (Romans 15:4).
3. Confess your sins to one another, **pray for one another and encourage one another** (James 5:16; Hebrews 3:12-13).
4. **“Submit yourself to God. Resist the Devil and he will flee from you”** (James 4:7).
5. **Flee** from idolatry and temptation (1 Corinthians 6:18; 10:14; 1 Timothy 6:11).

**Study Questions for Next Week
1 Corinthians 11**

1. :2-16 What, if any, part of this section was for that time and culture? What, if any, part of this is absolute for all times and cultures?
2. :17 How do you respond to a meeting that does more harm than good?
3. :18-22 What kept their celebration from *being* “the Lord’s supper”?
4. :27-34 What can/will you do to make our communion services *be* the Lord’s supper? What is the best way you have learned to prepare for communion and what do you think about when we do? What should we leaders do to make it what Christ intended?