

The Adventure Begins

14 Devotions for New Believers

What to Do When You Blow It

Memorize This: But God is faithful and fair. If we confess our sins, he will forgive our sins. He will forgive every wrong thing we have done. He will make us pure. - 1 John 1:9 (NirV)

Big Idea: God still loves me even when I sin.

Think About This:

Do you like riding bikes? It probably depends, doesn't it? Cruising on a flat sidewalk is easy. Coasting downhill is super fun. Huffing and puffing uphill? Not easy or fun!

And bike wrecks? Definitely no fun at all.

When you were first learning to ride a bike, you may have crashed a lot, but then, as you practiced, I bet you got better. Sure, you might still end up in a ditch now and then, but each day you ride, you learn how to control your bike a little bit more.

Jesus can help you do that with your life.

Some days it's easy to follow Jesus. It feels like you're coasting. Other days are more uphill, like when you're fighting temptation.

And then, there are the times you crash. You give into temptation. You say the mean word, make the selfish choice or do the thing you know you shouldn't have done. You feel guilty, and you may wonder if God still loves you.

After all, sin isn't an accident. It's a choice. We do it on purpose.

But don't worry. Jesus didn't pick you because you're good. He picked you because He loves you. And His love doesn't change no matter how bad we blow it.

There's a great story in the Bible about a kid who asked his dad for a bunch of money, ran away from home and blew it all on junk. When he ran out of money, he didn't have anything to eat or any place to go. So he ran back home to his dad.

You think his dad was mad? Nope. He was watching for his kid, just waiting for him to come home. His dad gave him a big hug and threw him a party because he loved him so much.

That's how God feels when we come back to Him after we sin. Jesus already died for that sin, remember? You're a part of His family.

So, when you mess up, just run back to God. He won't yell at you or be mad at you. He'll help you to make it right, and His love will help you to live His way.

Put It Into Action:

The next time you sin, run straight to God. Tell Him you're sorry and ask Him to help you learn from it so that next time you can make a better choice.

Prayer:

God, thank You for loving me when I do what's right and even when I do what's wrong. Use your love to teach me to live your way. Amen.