

Nobody is perfect. We all fail – make mistakes and need a fresh start from time to time. In the gospels you discover Jesus helped a lot of people make a fresh start. The question is how do we make a fresh start?

More On Stepping Into New Territory Taking The Initiative

*“God gives a fresh start to those ready to quit.”
Psalms 145:14 (Message)*

*“...a clean slate and a fresh start come from God by way of
Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 1:30 (Message)*

Making A Fresh S.T.A.R.T.

Stop _____

“A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance.” Proverbs 28:13 (LB)

Tell _____

“As Jesus... left town, a great crowd was following. A blind beggar named Bartimaeus was sitting beside the road as Jesus was going by. When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was nearby, he began to shout, ‘Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!’ ‘Be quiet!’ some of the people yelled at him. But he only shouted louder, ‘Son of David, have mercy on me!’ When Jesus heard him, he stopped and said, ‘Tell him to come here. ‘So they called the blind man. ‘Cheer up,’ they said. ‘Come on, he’s calling you!’ Bartimaeus threw aside his coat, jumped up, and came to Jesus. ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ Jesus asked. ‘Teacher,’ the blind man said, ‘I want to see’ And Jesus said to him, ‘Go your way. Your faith has healed you.’ And instantly the blind man could see! Then he followed Jesus down the road.” Mark 10:46-52 (NLT)

Accept _____

“Accept what I say, listen to me and do as I say, and you will have a long good life. I will teach you wisdom’s way and lead you in straight paths. If you live a life guided by wisdom, you won’t limp or stumble as you run. Carry out my instructions; don’t forsake them, for they will lead you to a fulfilled life.” Proverbs 4:10-13 (NLT)

*“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”
James 1:22 (NIV)*

Refocus

"You must give up your old way of life with all its bad habits. Let the Spirit change your way of thinking and make you into a new person." Ephesians 4:22-24 (CEV)

"...there must be a spiritual renewal of your thoughts and attitude." Ephesians 4:23 (NLT)

"Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts." Proverbs 4:23 (GN)

"...let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think." Romans 12:2 (NLT)

"The Lord says, 'Forget about what has happened before. Do not think about the past. [Instead] look at the new thing I am going to do.'" Isaiah 43:18-19 (NCV)

Getting Past Our Past

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9 (NIV)

"Happy are those who... are always meditating on God's Word... They are like trees along a river... that do not dry up. They succeed in everything they do." Psalms 1:1-3 (GN)

This Week's Memory Verses

"I can do everything through him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

Take

"Then he followed Jesus down the road." Mark 10:52 (NLT)

"When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same any more. A new life has begun!" 2 Corinthians 5:17 (LB)

"'You will not succeed by your own strength or power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord." Zechariah 4:6 (NCV)