

Attitude About Failures

Failure can either break us or make us. Those broken by failure are haunted by unpleasant memories. These memories are like shadows that lurk in front, behind, beside, beneath and above. It is also a cage that traps the mind, preventing it to entertain possibilities of freedom and success. They are convinced that they cannot do it; therefore, they will not try.

For those that failure could not break are those who became made “men.” Failure to them is not a ghost, but a friend who taught them well. It is also a stepping stone to wisdom. These men and women are convinced that true failure only happens when one gives up.

History has been kind to President Abraham Lincoln. He has been painted as probably the greatest president of the United States of America. It is the good thing that history also recorded his failures. It reflected his frail humanity but also showed his attitude of never giving up.

These failures could not stop him, he kept moving forward. The following is a short list of his ups and downs and ups.

- 1831 – Failed in business
- 1832 – Defeated for legislature
- 1833 – Again failed in business
- 1834 – Elected to legislature
- 1835 – Sweetheart died
- 1836 – Had a nervous breakdown
- 1838 – Defeated for speaker
- 1840 – Defeated for elector
- 1843 – Defeated for Congress
- 1846 – Elected for Congress
- 1848 – Defeated for Congress
- 1855 – Defeated for Senate
- 1856 – Defeated for Vice-President
- 1858 – Defeated for Senate
- 1860 – ELECTED PRESIDENT

He was defeated more times than he won, but that did not mean he was a failure. Remember, that failures are only permanent if we stop trying. The only real failure is the failure not to move on.