

# Disappointed?



Have you ever really **wanted to succeed** at something? Imagine you're going surfing. You've gotten yourself in shape, you've waxed and readied your board, and you've been working on your balance with exercises. **Now you're ready.** You head out to the beach and paddle out on your board. You're ready for the wave. **Here it comes.** You stand up confidently, ready to ride. And **WHAP!** The wave slams into you and knocks you flat. **You're stunned as you watch it go right past you as if you didn't exist.** *That's disappointment.*

You want something. You work for it.

You do your best. Then it doesn't work out.

Maybe you didn't pass a **math test** that you studied hard for, or you didn't make the **basketball team**, or you lost a **competition**.

You did your best, but it didn't work out.

You're disappointed. It feels terrible.

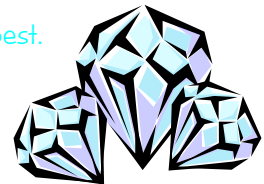
Disappointment happens to everyone.

Even **Jesus Christ** – God's Son – knew disappointment. Jesus did His best for His friends but many turned against Him when He was about to be crucified.

**He must have felt awful.** But Jesus came through it, and He won in the end.

*What can we learn from Him?*

- ❖ Jesus knew He wasn't a failure – He did what God wanted, and He did His best. If you do the right thing and do your best... that's real success.
- ❖ Jesus allowed God to strengthen Him. Sometimes God take us over rough roads to make us stronger – to polish us up like fine diamonds.
- ❖ Jesus knew God's timing was perfect. Maybe the thing you want right now isn't best for you. God may be preparing the best blessing in secret – and you're going to love it!



*Meanwhile, here are some things you can do:*

- ❖ **Ask God** to give you peace.
- ❖ **Distract yourself** – visit a friend, learn a new craft, help your Mom or Dad. Keep busy with good things and the disappointment fades quickly.
- ❖ **Enjoy challenges.** If you do, you've already won.
- ❖ **Say out loud,** "God has something better for me!" Believe it!

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." – Jeremiah 29: 10-12*