

# **From Failure to Victory**

Properly Responding to our Sin



# Tom Whittaker

- An accomplished mountaineer
- In 1979 tragedy struck
- A different sort of man
- In 1998 reached the top of Mt. Everest!



Are you more aware  
of your sin, while  
seeing heaven more  
clearly?

The background of the slide features a dynamic, abstract design. The top half is dominated by deep blue and teal colors, which appear to be part of a liquid or smoke-like flow, creating a sense of movement. These colors transition into a bright, clean white background that occupies the lower half of the slide. The overall effect is one of fluidity and depth.

Are you more aware of  
your sin?



Greater Awareness of Sin...

## **Is Spiritual Growth!**

- Greater spirituality amplifies our sin...which can be frustrating! – Rom. 6:1-2, 5-6
- Sin is a reality – Rom. 3:23
  - Only God is good – Matt. 19:17
  - Our righteousness is filthy rags – Isa. 64:6
  - To see ourselves otherwise is deception – 1 Jn. 1:8



Greater Awareness of Sin...

## **Is Lost**

- Like the Jews of old, *time* can blind us to our faults – Rom. 2:1
- These blind spots set us up for temptation and sin – 1 Cor. 10:12
- Being blind to our faults is like Tom Whittaker *forgetting* his handicaps!



Greater Awareness of Sin...

## **Is Necessary to Reach our Goal**

- This awareness helps us *adjust* our lives!
- Awareness of sin means we are exposing our life to God's light for correction – Jn. 3:20-21; Psa. 119:9-11
- Awareness of our sin helps us focus on what is needed to overcome!
  - Rely on God's **grace** – Rom. 5:8-9; 6:12-14
  - Trust God's **promises** – 2 Cor. 7:1
  - Have greater **mercy** toward others – Eph. 2:11-13

Greater Awareness of Sin...

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- Awareness of our life to God; Psa. 119:9
- Awareness of what is needed to overcome!
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**Have you grown to be  
more aware of your  
sins?**



Are you seeing heaven  
more clearly?



# Tom Whittaker

- Tragedy changed his life!
- His new handicaps were only temporary setbacks.
- He never lost focus or gave up on his goal!
- It took 19 years to succeed.
  - Human reason said “no!”
  - He was given a stone to return!
  - He was motivated by knowing where he was going and what he had to do!





By Seeing Heaven...

# **The Mature Grow Ever Stronger!**

- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
  - Despite the infirmities, the spiritual grow stronger – 2 Cor. 4:16
  - For the spiritual, afflictions work for our eternal glory – 2 Cor. 4:17-18; Rom. 8:18
- Keep your heavenly focus!
  - Tom's hindrances challenged him to work even harder to achieve his goal!
  - We must know our weaknesses and let the goal of heaven drive us to victory! – Phil. 3:8-15

By Seeing Heaven...

# The Mature Grow Ever Stronger!

- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
  - Despite the infirmities, the spiritual grow stronger – 2 Cor. 4:16
  - For the **Do not allow sin to conquer you!** rnal glory – 2 Cor. 4
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  - Tom's hindrances challenged him to work even harder to achieve his goal!
  - We must know our weaknesses and let the goal of heaven drive us to victory! – Phil. 3:8-15



# Conclusion:

- God has given you a “stone”—an eternal soul—and challenged you to return it to Him in heaven!
- Set your sights on the things of heaven – Col. 3:1-4
- Will you accept that challenge by coming to Christ?