

SERMON NOTES

Title: *Standing in the Loser's Circle*

Text: Psalm 51:4-10, Romans 8:28

Topic: Humility

Teacher: Pastor Barry

Time: 4/26/26

File Under: Christian Living.



There are some rich blessings available to people who experience loss. A loss can...

CLARIFY

A loss can help differentiate between **eternal** concerns and **temporal** concerns. It often produces a **simplifying** and **clarifying** effect.

PURIFY

After many victories, David experienced a string of staggering losses.

David's losses brought him to the place where he pleaded for **cleansing**.

*"You are right in judging me, O Lord. Against thee and thee only have I sinned. Now wash me, Lord; wash me and make me whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God. Make me whiter than snow. **Purify me.**"* Psalm 51

Those who experience lots of victories can become a "legend in their own mind."

A loss can lead to **deep introspection** out of which God may do a much-needed work of purifying.

UNIFY

Close friendships have been forged in the crucible of **hardship and loss**.

If a loss can clarify, purify and unify why am I so deathly afraid of experiencing one? "*Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it* (is going to be a winner)." Matthew 10:39

Suggestions on how to apply this message....

First, be very cautious of the effects of a string of **victories**.

Second, choose to **lose** once in a while.

Jesus chose to lose the prerogatives of heaven. Philippians 2. Jesus demonstrated **downward** mobility.

Third, let God use your loss to **bring good** into your life. "... *in all things God works for the good of those who love Him...*" Romans 8:28

"I have learned to hold things loosely, because it hurts too much when God has to pry your fingers open to get to them." - Corrie ten Boom

Fourth, take the risk of entering into the **loss of another**. And be willing to disclose your own losses so others can stand in the **loser's circle** with you.

"He (Christ) must increase, I must decrease." - John the Baptist (John 3:30)