

# Free to Fail

Many people battle with perfectionism. God's mercy in the midst of failure is His remedy for the fear that failure is the end.

# **Discussion Questions**

- 1. Can you think of the last time that you failed at something? What was it, and how did you respond?
- 2. It can be easy to fall into that thinking of, "Well, it's better not to try at all than to try and fail." Would you consider yourself to be a perfectionist? If so, how so?
- 3. For as many of us who think that failure is final, there are so many others who have lived through it who realize, "No, actually, I had to fail in order to be free." Have you ever thought of failure as being a doorway to freedom? What are your thoughts about this? Please share?
- 4. Even after all that Jesus has done, we can still be so afraid to try again because we don't believe we can trust Him when we've fallen. Do you find it difficult to trust Jesus? Why do you think that is?
- 5. "I am free to fail, because I am free to trust." How does this resonate with you?

# **God in Real Life**

Through mercy, we encounter a love that we don't deserve. Spend time praying through the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (handout below) just once this week.

# To the Heart

"But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name." John 20:31

# HOW TO PRAY THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

#### 1. Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### 2. Our Father

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

#### 3. Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

# 4. Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.



#### 5. On each of the Large Beads

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.



### 6. On each of the Small Beads

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

## **After Praying All 5 Decades**

## 7. Concluding Doxology (Repeat 3x)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

#### 8. Closing Prayer (optional)

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion — inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.



