

## Try Beginning Again

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deceased

Perhaps some reader has tried to be a Christian, but failed. If so, why not try again? Great success does not always come from a single effort. Worth while things are always worth trying and striving for, even if we must try again and again. In the year 1917, a tornado destroyed our home, blew it away and ruined our crops on a farm before it tore up Carbon Hill, Alabama and left the dead and homeless in its wake. But we did not give up and quit. The next spring we found ourselves planting again, and soon we were growing a crop.

Life is much like that. Wars are not usually won by a single battle. But battle after battle must be fought before the victory is won. In a way some of these battles are lost, but victory belongs to those who win the last battle.

One young man started in to fight the cigarette habit but soon felt that the weed had conquered him. However, he decided that no man is licked who will keep on trying again and again. So he summoned all his forces and marshaled them against this dangerous habit. A day at a time he vowed to his friends and to God that he would not smoke that day, regardless of what happened.

Soon he had conquered the habit which is the master of millions in our land. Very few spend a long life in the service of Christ without ever getting discouraged, and for the moment, giving up in despair. But those who overcome the world are they who (if need be) try again and again; who refuse to surrender to the evil one. If they fail, they go down fighting—soon to rise again.

It is easy to give up and quit when the going gets rough, as it most certainly will—sooner or later. Long roads usually have some detours and rough places over which one must travel in order to reach the desired destiny.

The Christian life is like running a race (**Hebrews 12:1 ff**, **1 Corinthians 9:25 ff**). If one fails he should get up and try again. The new birth is a sort of “land of beginning again” (**John 3:5**). So is a restoration of an erring child of God (**Galatians 6:1**; **James 5:19-20**).