

The real gift of failure: The matter or manner of making mistakes

"Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep." – Scott Adams

We all make mistakes. What matters is how we react – what we do with our mistakes?

Thomas Edison experimented with more than 6,000 materials to use as a filament in a light bulb before he found the one that worked.

The Wright brothers, after failing in the launch of the largest glider every attempted to be flown, predicted that humans would probably not fly in their lifetime. Nevertheless, they kept at their dream. Just two years later, they designed a 700-pound craft they called "The Flyer." After two more failed attempts and one minor



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crash, Orville kept the Flyer aloft for a sustained flight of 12 seconds – the first, successful, piloted flight in history.

As F. Scott Fitzgerald said: "Never confuse a single defeat with a final defeat."

In 1919, professor Robert Goddard published a paper suggesting human space travel was possible,



What is the timing of failure? Is it a nod from the universe that you should try a different tact, or go a different direction? Could failure be a turning point? Perhaps failure moves you closer to pursuing a passion in lieu of playing it safe.