



WAYS TO DESTROY A RELATIONSHIP

SERMON OUTLINE

Sunday March 13th, 2016

PASTOR DAVID COOKE - Make Sure You Don't take Any Risks
1 Samuel 14: 1-14

• REVIEW

1. Make Sure You Look Good Above Doing Good

- It's all about you and your status.
- Our relationship will thrive when I put you before me.

2. Make Sure You Are Like Above Being Loved

- Pursue popularity.
- Choosing God's love above someone's acceptance brings God's peace.

3. Make Sure You Don't Take Any Risks

- Pursue being certain before any decision.
- Trusting God frees me to take risks because God won't abandon me.



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- Taking Risks

- A Story of Risk

1 Samuel 14:1-15 (ESV)

- Jonathan's X Factor

"Come let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised. It may be that the LORD will work for us, for nothing can hinder the LORD from saving by many or by few."

1. God is _____

2. God _____

3. God is _____

"We plead not ourselves, but the promises of Jesus; not our strengths but His; our weaknesses yes, but His mercies. Our way of fighting is to hide behind Jesus who fights for us. Our hope is not the absence of our regret, or misery or doubt or lament, but the presence of Jesus."

*Spurgeon's Sorrows: Realistic Hope for those who suffer from depression,
Zack Eswine*



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Because Jonathan remembered the character of God and trusted in the character of God, he could trust God and take the risk to go into the unknown.

- **Trusting God frees me to take risks because God won't abandon me.**

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6, ESV)

- **Jesus' Call To Discipleship**

"Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."" (Matthew 16:24, ESV)

1. Say no to yourself
2. Say yes to the hard things
3. Walk with Jesus

- **Take The Risk**

ANSWERS: on our side, directs as we act, mighty



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Ice-Breaker: What was the last risk you took? What happened?

Read 1 Samuel 14:1-14

1. What prompted Jonathan to say what he did (vv. 6, 8)? What resulted?
2. Not all risks are wise or even steps of faith. What are examples of foolish risk-taking? Although safety is not our ultimate goal, what safeguard did Jonathan rely on (v. 6)?
3. What do you think was fundamental to the relationship between Jonathan and his armor-bearer?

Read Acts 9:10-19 (another story of risk & trust)

4. How did Ananias respond to the vision from the Lord?
5. What was the challenge for Ananias (vv. 13-14)? How would you have felt about what God asked him to do?
6. What occurred because of Ananias' obedience to the Lord? In thinking about what we find in the Bible about the life of Saul (who went on to impact so many for the Gospel as the Apostle Paul), what significance do you see in how God used Ananias?
7. God repeatedly exhorts us to be fearless and courageous. What does he promise as we do so (Joshua 1:9)?

Putting it into Action

Trust in God frees us to take risks because God is worthy of our trust. He keeps calling us back to discipleship: Say "no" to yourself. Say "yes" to the hard things. Walk with Jesus (Matthew 16:24).

8. What has God called you to do that will increase your dependency on him?

