
SUNDAY WORSHIP GUIDE
LUKE 9:57-62

Risk: Risk and Following Jesus
Luke 9:57-62

Risk (Merriam-Webster)

- Noun: Possibility of loss or injury
- Verb: To expose to hazard or danger

Risk (Dr. John Piper)

- “An action that exposes you to the possibility of loss or injury”

Philippians 3:7-10 - But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

One Thing:

- **Call of Christ to follow him = Call of Christ to risk it all**

Gospel Thinking:

- What we notice about risk and following Jesus:

1. Risk is Expected

- “Plainly put, a relationship with Jesus requires total, superior, and exclusive devotion.” – David Platt

Matthew 4:19-22 - And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

2. Risk is Personal

- ***Abraham*** - Genesis 12:1 – Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.”
- ***Esther*** - Esther 4:15-17 - ¹⁵ Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai, ¹⁶ “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.”
- ***Meshach, Shadrach and Abednego*** - Daniel 3:16-18 - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. ¹⁷ If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. ¹⁸ But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

3. Risk in anchored in who Christ is

- “There is more than one danger in calling Christians to take risks. For one, we might become so fixated on self-denial that we are unable to enjoy the proper pleasures of this life that God has given for our good. Another danger, which is worse, is that we might be drawn to a life of risk for self-exalting reasons. We might feel the adrenaline of heroism rising. We might scorn the lazy and cowardly and feel superior. We might think of risk as a kind of righteousness that makes us acceptable to God. What would be missing from all these mistakes is childlike faith in the sovereign rule of God and in his triumphant love.” – John Piper

John 6:66-69 - After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹ and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

Gospel Living:

- If risk is required and personal, then are there areas of your life that you are unwilling to risk?
- If risk needs to be anchored in Christ, is there an assurance of His love and grace for you?
- How might God be challenging you to step out in faith and risk this year?