

unlikely HEROES

who you could be will surprise you



MESSAGE: Take Risks for Others

SPEAKER: Jim Johnson | **DATE:** May 4 & 5, 2019

Taking risks is a fundamental dynamic of human existence

Reward (an opportunity or desired outcome)

Risk (exposure to loss)

Certainty (some degree of probability)

Decision (take the risk or not)

Whatever we decide about any risk, there will be a gain or a loss or both

If you take the risk and succeed = Gain

If you take the risk and fail = Loss/Gain

If you don't take the risk \neq Gain

If you don't take the risk = Loss

The biggest risk in life is not taking risks (Matthew 25:14-30)

We can take different kinds of risks:

Foolish (Reward ↓ Risk ↑ Certainty ↓)

Calculated (Reward ↑ Risk ↔ Certainty ↔)

Heroic (Reward ↑ Risk ↑ Certainty ↓ for others)

A hero is someone who acts courageously and sacrificially for the well-being of others and by doing so becomes a role model for others

We take risks in various areas of life:

Health, Relationships, Finances, Social, Spiritual

Abraham—The first big risk taker! (Genesis 12:1-5 NLT)

Abraham's Big Risk:

Reward: A blessed life

**A blessed life is one in which God is working for your well-being and flourishing
A blessed life is one which God uses to work for the well-being and flourishing of others**

Risk: Leaving behind everything which he had trusted for his well-being and flourishing

Certainty: A high level of Certainty (Romans 4:18 NLT)

Decision: He trusted God and took the risk . . . and he gained a flourishing life for himself and millions of others

Abraham's big risk . . . his courageous and sacrificial faith impacts us today!

The Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would make the Gentiles right in his sight because of their faith. God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, "All nations will be blessed through you." So all who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith. (Galatians 3:8-9 NLT)

Our Big Risk:

Reward: A blessed and flourishing life with God here and now through Jesus

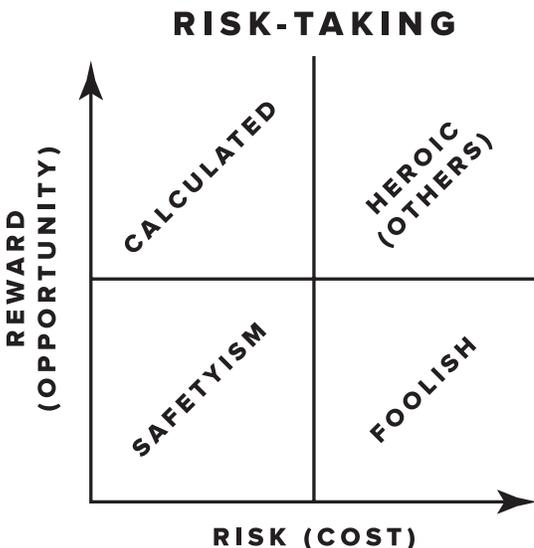
Risk: Letting go of everything we have trusted in the past to give us this kind of life

Certainty: The reasonable certainty of Jesus' resurrection and its historical ripples

Decision: What is keeping you from taking the big risk on Jesus?

What would Abraham have lost if he had not taken the risk? What will you miss by not taking it?

You've taken the risk on God, but you want to live a more heroic life for others



Take a small risk that will lead to a bigger one

- Obey a small whisper from God to do something he asks**
- Extend an offer of friendship to someone who is culturally different from you**
- Dare to be real in front of others**
- Help someone who needs it without any expectations**