Faith Matters

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Daily Devotional - Reasons for Taking Risks

JUNE 16TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Joshua 1:6-9

In the first chapter of Joshua, God delivers the greatest pep talk in all of Scripture. Moses had just died, and now his successor was called upon to lead the nation of Israel into the Promised Land—a military action that would surely involve significant risk. Joshua was no doubt unsettled by the prospects of facing a strong hostile army. Therefore, the Lord spoke words of encouragement to him that still ring true for us today.

What would have happened if Joshua had refused this daunting assignment? Most likely, the nation of Israel would have languished in the desert indefinitely. Fortunately, this leader was a man of great faith and courage, and he boldly took up the cause of God.

Like Joshua, we face daily obstacles that seem to push our faith to the breaking point. And yet, it is in the throes of adversity that God hones our faith (James 1:2-4). When we refuse to follow Him into risky situations, the results can be devastating to our spiritual growth. Consider the consequences of disobedience on your life:

- 1. You will never become the person that God wants you to be.
- 2. You limit your usefulness to the Lord.
- 3. You are willing to live a life of rationalized disobedience.
- 4. You'll be governed by fear rather than faith.
- 5. You risk losing not only rewards in heaven but also blessings on earth.

Are you in some way refusing God's call? The Lord is trustworthy. Whatever His plan of action for you, be assured He will see you safely through the ordeal.

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