

Sermon Guide

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sermon discussion questions

" A Risky Proposal"

- What are the first three things you usually tell people about yourself?
- Of those things that you identify yourself with, which would be the hardest for you to sacrifice or give up, and why?
- Getting Boaz to act as the family redeemer meant that Ruth had to first approach him. What risks did Ruth take as she followed Naomi's advice? (vv. 5-9)
- What was the significance of uncovering Boaz's feet? (vv. 4,8)
- On the other hand, what risks did Boaz take to reach out to Ruth and allow her into his life?
- What does Boaz's response to Ruth's request (vv. 10-11) and his actions in verses 14-16 tell us about how he treated Ruth?
- Why do you think God values risk? What do we communicate to God when we take risks to make His name known?
- How did Boaz accept responsibility in this situation beyond what was required under the law?
- What would Boaz need to do before agreeing to be Naomi and Ruth's family redeemer? What is the lesson here for us?
- What clear responsibilities do we have when it comes to helping people come to know Jesus? Think about specific commands in Scripture.
- What risk are associated with these responsibilities? What happens if we fail to accept these responsibilities?
- How well are you accepting your basic responsibilities to show love and care to people who need Jesus? Is there anything more you need to start doing?

dig deeper:

"Only a real risk tests the reality of a belief."

~C.S. Lewis

What are some of the sacrifices we have to make if we want to minister to others? Do any of these sacrifices feel risky to you? If so, which ones, and how so?

What do we need to remind ourselves of when the risk to minister to non-Christians doesn't seem worth it?

Think about your own life. Who took a risk on you and helped you come to know Jesus? What can you learn from his or her example? How can we as a church stand together to encourage each other in what God has told us to do?

preschool ***questions***

- Do a "trust fall" with your kids. Have some fun with this, try from different heights, maybe even have them be blind folded.
- After multiple tries ask if that was hard for them to trust you?
- Ask: What would happen if I didn't catch you? (a bump on the bum).
- Explain: that is called risk. (What might happen, or what it may cost.)
- Read: Ruth 3:1-9
- Explain: sometimes God ask us to do things that are risky, they may cost us, but we know we can trust him for our good, like you know that mom/dad will catch you in a trust fall.

elementary ***questions***

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- After multiple tries ask if it was hard for them to trust you?
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- Explain: sometimes God ask us to do things that are risky, they may cost us, but we know we can trust him for our good, like you know that mom/dad will catch you in a trust fall.
- Ask: what are some risky things God might ask of them? (Share faith with a friend).

student ***questions***

- Ask: What is risky behavior?
- Share a story of a "risky" thing you did.
- What does risk/reward mean?
- Read Ruth 3:1-9
- What did Ruth risk?
- Read Ruth 3:10-18
- What did Boaz risk?
- How did God provide?
- What is one risky thing God wants you to do this week?

