

## A DARING RISK

## A RISK THAT LED TO THE MIRACULOUS...

One day Jonathan said to his armor bearer, "Come on, let's go over to where the Philistines have their outpost." But Jonathan did not tell his father what he was doing. Meanwhile, Saul and his 600 men were camped on the outskirts of Gibeah, around the pomegranate tree at Migron... To reach the Philistine outpost, Jonathan had to go down between two rocky cliffs that were called Bozez and Seneh... "Let's go across to the outpost of those pagans," Jonathan said to his armor bearer. "Perhaps the Lord will help us, for nothing can hinder the Lord. He can win a battle whether he has many warriors or only a few!" "Do what you think is best," the armor bearer replied. "I'm with you completely, whatever you decide." "All right, then," Jonathan told him. "We will cross over and let them see us... When the Philistines saw them coming, they shouted, "Look! The Hebrews are crawling out of their holes!" Then the men from the outpost shouted to Jonathan, "Come on up here, and we'll teach you a lesson!" "Come on, climb right behind me," Jonathan said to his armor bearer, "for the Lord will help us defeat them!" So they climbed up using both hands and feet, and the Philistines fell before Jonathan, and his armor bearer killed those who came behind them. They killed some twenty men in all, and their bodies were scattered over about half an acre. Suddenly, panic broke out in the Philistine army, both in the camp and in the field, including even the outposts and raiding parties... Saul's lookouts in Gibeah of Benjamin saw a strange sight—the vast army of Philistines began to melt away in every direction. "Call the roll and find out who's missing," Saul ordered. And when they checked, they found that Jonathan and his armor bearer were gone. Then Saul shouted to Ahijah... But while Saul was talking to the priest, the confusion in the Philistine camp grew louder and louder. So Saul said to the priest, "Never mind; let's get going!" Then Saul and all his men rushed out to the battle and found the Philistines killing each other. There was terrible confusion everywhere. Even the Hebrews who had

previously gone over to the Philistine army revolted and joined in with Saul, Jonathan, and the rest of the Israelites. Likewise, the men of Israel who were hiding in the hill country of Ephraim joined the chase when they saw the Philistines running away. So the Lord saved Israel that day... 1 Samuel 14:1-23 (NLT)

## HOW TO TAKE "A DARING RISK" OF FAITH:

 I must embrace and trust that I can't go wrong chasing GOD'S PURPOSES.

"Let's go across to the outpost of those pagans," ...for nothing can hinder the Lord (HIS PLANS, HIS PURPOSES). He can win a battle whether He has many warriors or only a few!" v.6

2. I must get with other godly risk-TAKERS.

"Do what you think is best," the armor bearer replied. "I'm with you completely, whatever you decide." v. 7

3. I must give God what I **HAVE** and trust Him to supply what I **NEED**.

"Come on, climb right behind me," Jonathan said to his armor bearer, "for the Lord will help us defeat them!" So they climbed up using both hands and feet... vv. 12-13

Then Saul and all his men rushed out to the battle...Even the Hebrews who had previously gone over to the Philistine army revolted and joined in with Saul, Jonathan, and the rest of the Israelites. Likewise, the men of Israel who were hiding in the hill country of Ephraim joined the chase... vv. 20-22

4. I must personally MOVE in faith.

"Come on, climb right behind me," v. 12

Going deeper on your own. Read 1 Samuel Chapters 13-14. Review today's message notes, then answer the following questions. Have you ever taken a Daring Risk? Maybe it was starting a company, taking a job, moving to a new city where you had never been before, if so, why did you take the risk? Have you ever taken a Daring Risk for God (maybe a mission trip, funding something, or speaking to someone about your faith)? Why did you do it? What did you learn from the experience and what was the result? Now, read 1 Corinthians 15:58. What does God promise when taking a risk for Him? If you have not already done so, sometime this week please consider taking a prayer walk around our proposed new building site. Pray and specifically ask God to show you what He is doing and how you could help in this Daring New Day.