

## Security Brief 7 Script – Biblical Principles of Risk Part 3

Ed Nye the Security Guy here with another Security Brief.

Today we wrap up our discussion on the biblical principles about risk. Remember that these principles were derived from the many risk narratives found in scripture and last time we talked about getting guidance in risk decisions.

Today, we will talk about the basis for our risk in missions as well as some mistaken understandings of risk.

Probably the foundational understanding of risk in missions is that Gospel proclamation is risky. The instructions of Jesus in sending out the 70 in Matthew 10 underscores this. But even though Jesus sent the disciples into potentially hostile environments, He said the risk is worth it.

And he doesn't send us out alone. The Holy Spirit empowers our Gospel proclamation. A foundational understanding of the baptism of the Holy Spirit in Acts 1:8 is that His empowerment is for gospel proclamation. He promises both to be with us and to empower us in our witness.

However, even with all of the principles about making risk decisions in Scripture, we still have some wrong understandings about risk. The primary thing to remember is that the Bible does not honor taking risk for the sake of risk. Elevating risk to a value can make the act of facing danger an idol.

The next principle to remember is that risk does not guarantee ministry fruit. Some believe that taking risk for the sake of the gospel means fruit will necessarily follow. But neither fruit, nor personal safety, nor heavenly rewards are ever promised when we take risks.

Having said that, it is also important to know that while taking risks does not guarantee ministry fruit, avoiding risk completely DOES guarantee a lack of fruit. In other words, we as we said in episode one, "no risk, no reward". Scripture condemns taking no risks for the sake of the Gospel as we see in the Parable of the Talents. Wisely avoiding, mitigating, or sidestepping risky situations is not the same as attempting to avoid all risks. But our risk averse culture too often tries to view any risk at all as negative.

To sum it all up, we need to know that Gospel proclamation is risky, but that the Holy Spirit empowers us in our witness. We should avoid the mistaken notions that taking risks means that we are somehow more spiritual, or that risks in themselves guarantee ministry fruit. However, avoiding all risks is even more damaging because it guarantees that we will not see any fruit. No risk, no reward.

Now you know.

We'll see you next time for another security brief.