**Risk - Ponderings**

**It is better by noble boldness to run the risk of being subject to half of the evils we anticipate than to remain in cowardly listlessness for fear of what may happen. *(Herodotus)***

**Most of us teach our children not to take unnecessary risks. What a pity when a child looks into the eyes of his parent and thinks, “I’d better not go there alone.” *(Jim Hancock, in R aising Adults: Getting Kids Ready for the Real World)***

**I want to stay as close to the edge as I can without going over. Out on the edge you see all kinds of things you can't see from the center. *(Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., American novelist)***

**To conquer without risk is to triumph without glory. *(Pierre Corneille, French dramatist)***

**The chief danger in life is that you may take too many precautions. *(Alfred Adler, psychologist)***

**The most dangerous creation of any society is that man who has nothing to lose. *(James Baldwin, author)***

**Don't be afraid to take a big step if one is indicated. You can't cross a chasm in two small steps. *(David Lloyd George)***

**Elegance is good taste plus a dash of daring. *(Carmel Snow with Mary Louise Aswell, in The World of Carmel Snow)***

**God's call to me, his child, is not to safeness, but always to something more -- always upward, higher, further along. To bypass the call is to settle for mediocrity, complacency and dormancy. And should I choose not to risk, I will more than likely wake up some morning with the haunting question on my mind, “Could God have had something more for me, if only I had dared to trust?” *(Ruth Senter, in Guideposts)***

**The greatest risk of all? Not to risk. *(Country Extra magazine)***

**The greatest risk is the risk of riskless living. *(Stephen R. Covey, author of The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People)***

**Are things going well enough now between us to risk being honest, and spoiling everything? *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot Shots)***

**You have to leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. What you'll discover will be wonderful. What you'll discover will be yourself. *(Alan Alda, American actor)***

**Life is a gamble at terrible odds. If it were a bet, you would not take it. *(Tom Stoppard, playwright)***

**Do you want me to tell you something really subversive? Love is everything it's cracked up to be. That's why people are so cynical about it ... It really is worth fighting for, being brave for, risking everything for. And the trouble is, if you don't risk anything, you risk even more. *(Erica Jong, in How to Save Your Own Life)***

**If you're never scared, embarrassed or hurt, it means you never take any chances. (*Julia Sorel, in See How She Runs)***

**All serious daring starts from within. *(Eudora Welty, in One Writer's Beginnings)***

**A sheltered life can be a daring life as well. *(Eudora Welty)***

**A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for. *(John A. Shedd)***

**Smooth seas do not make skillful sailors. *(African proverb)***

**Sometimes you have to take the leap, and build your wings on the way down. *(Kobi Yamada)***

**Risk is the sort of word that is easy to discuss upfront but tough to handle when it comes to pay the piper. There will always be someone who wimps out and second-guess themselves when the pain hits, but that is a childish reaction. *(Nathan Myhrvoid)***

**My Favorite Saying: Unless you stick your neck out, you won’t get your head above the crowd. *(John Hampsch, in Reminisce magazine)***

**There are some things one can only achieve by a deliberate leap in the opposite direction. *(Franz Kafka)***

**"Come to the edge," he said. "We are afraid," they answered. "Come to the edge," he said. They came. He pushed them, and they flew. *(Unity in the Rockies newsletter)***

**We can't be afraid of change. You may feel very secure in the pond that you are in, but if you never venture out of it, you will never know that there is such a thing as an ocean or sea. Holding onto something that is good for you now, may be the very reason why you don't have something better. *(C. JoyBell C.)***

**We want lives of simple, predictable ease -- smooth, even trails are far as the eye can see -- but God likes to go off-road. *(Tony Snow, former White House Press Secretary, when asked what spiritual lessons he'd learned while dealing with a second bout of colon cancer)***

**When in doubt, make a fool of yourself. There is a microscopically thin line between being brilliantly creative and acting like the most gigantic idiot on earth. So what the hell, leap. *(Cynthia Heimel)***

**To win without risk is to triumph without glory. *(Pierre Comeille, playwright)***

**You can become a winner only if you are willing to walk over the edge. *(Damon Runyon)***

**Good sense makes the world go round but risk is what changes it. “One person traveling opposite the flow,” Noah Ben Shea writes, “is more clearly noticed than all who travel together.” For once in your life, go against the flow! *(Joan D. Chittister, OSB, in The Monastic Way)***

**The risk of a wrong decision is preferable to the terror of indecision. *(Maimonides)***

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