

Message by John Johnson
May 17-18, 2008
Stepping Out Into Uncertainty
1 Samuel 14:1-23

Sometimes risk comes with great cost, but it also has its benefits. In 1 Samuel 14 we read the story of one of the great risk takers of the Old Testament, a man named Jonathon. In this chapter are helpful words for each of us individually, as well as for the church as a whole.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What did you like about this message? Did any of it speak to your own life situation?
2. Jonathon's father, Saul, is an important character in this story. Can anyone summarize Saul's life and how it relates to Jonathon's actions?
3. Read verse 6. What does this verse reveal regarding Jonathon's knowledge about WHAT God would do and, comparatively, about WHO God is?
4. There is an amazing statement of loyalty and trust in verse 7. Do you have such a person in your life whom you know will be behind you in anything to such a degree as was Jonathon's armor-bearer?
5. In verses 8-10, what is the fleece Jonathon used to determine God's mind about his plan? What do you think of Jonathon's method of determining God's will?
6. Pastor John says Saul and Jonathon represent two contrasting approaches to life. There are "Pomegranate Types" and "Other Side Types." Explain these two types of leaders. What do you think of the comparison?
7. John quoted Erwin McManus, "If you wait for guarantees, the one guarantee is that you will miss divine opportunities." Do you agree with this statement?
8. Are there any specific opportunities or challenges you are facing? Does this sermon influence how you will proceed?