

FAITH & WORK

A SPECIAL SUNDAY
TRAINING FOR THE EVERYDAY

discussion guide



EMPOWERED FOR RISK – TOBY KURTH

Read the Text

Genesis 1:26-28

1 ²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man^[a] in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

2 ¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

Main Point

We were created to live with God and for God, and sometimes that involves taking risks. ***Through the power of the Holy Spirit who unites us with God the Father and Jesus, we are empowered to embrace risk.*** Oftentimes, the risk is uncertain, uncomfortable, and tense, but God invites us into this discomfort so that we can better rely and depend on Him.

What does it mean to take risks and why would God want us to take them though? When we look at His example, from the time of Creation, we see that God creates. And one of His first commands to us is to follow His example and create and cultivate. **God creates and also calls us to create and cultivate.** This is how we are to understand the relationship between our faith and work. It's part of God's plan to bring order to chaos with our creativity. And tapping into our creativity involves taking risks. **As we learn to embrace our call to create and cultivate, we grow in our ability to embrace risk.** We grow, because we see that God is in control of everything, and we increasingly depend on Him. Risk should always push us into greater dependence upon God through the Spirit's power.

Reflect Together

1. **Who is God?** Why does God want us to take risks by creating and cultivating? How does it reflect who He is?
2. **What has He done?:** What is a risk you've taken in the past that required you to depend on the Spirit? What happened?
3. **Who are you?:** What does risk-taking and creativity look like in your life? How does it apply to your day-to-day work?
4. **What are you to do?:** How would you like to embrace risk and place a deeper trust in God as you embrace His calling on your life?

Abide Together

Where do each of you spend the majority of your waking hours? For some, it's at work, for others, it's in the home, or at school. How do you apply your faith into your day-to-day work? What has worked well? What hasn't? Share with one another your wins and losses and learn from each other.

Mission Together

Who is one person in your day-to-day life who doesn't know Jesus? How can you live out your faith to them? This doesn't necessarily mean handing them a Bible or even inviting them to

church. Rather, it's more about building relationship and rapport with them. What is one way you can do that this week?