



RISK

Perfectly Positioned

#nprisk

Week 1
1 of 4
March 5, 2017

Bottom Line: The greatest gift you can ever give anyone is an introduction to the God who created and loves them.

Icebreaker: Who is the most famous person you have ever met? How did it happen?

Key Verse: *Risk your life and get more than you ever dreamed of. Play it safe and end up holding the bag.*
Luke 19:26 MSG

Imagine the anticipation and thoughts swimming around in Peter's and Andrew's minds. They had been hard at work just a few moments ago, doing what they did every single morning. They were casting their nets into the lake, hoping for enough of a catch to get a leg up on the weekly costs to care for their families. It's what their father had done before them, and what they would be doing the rest of their lives. Galilee had limited career opportunities. A person pretty much just needed to stay with what his father had done, like it or not. At least the family business was some kind of security. But along came this guy—a new rabbi who had just started creating ripples in the quiet town. Since John the Baptist had been arrested, this man was the newest voice with a revolutionary message. When they heard His voice call to them, they couldn't believe it. Why them? And what was He saying? *"Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men"* (Matthew 4:19).

To their own amazement, they exchanged a quick look, dropped their nets, and went after Him. A few boats down the shoreline, He called the same to old friends James and John who were sitting in a boat with their dad, Zebedee. They as well said a quick goodbye, jumped up, and ran to the rabbi named Jesus. The adventure had begun.

The risk of leaving their business and homes was monumental, but this was only the beginning. In their days with Jesus they learned to see things from His perspective: Every person who ever takes a breath will live forever somewhere. Fishing for men means finding those people and giving them the greatest gift anyone could ever receive: an introduction to the God who created them and loves them.

THINK IT OVER >>>

Thinking back on Dwight's message, what struck you most powerfully?

"If there is someone within my circle to whom I could extend grace, I want to take the risk." Does that statement frighten you? Are you resistant? Why?

"One of the greatest tragedies of Christianity is that the longer a person walks with God, the more insulated against lost people they tend to be." Is there anything about this statement that is true of you? Your circle?

Who took a risk for you? What were they risking?

What have been the rewards of the risk for them? For you?

LOOK IT OVER <<<

Consciously remembering that everyone with whom I interact today will spend forever somewhere should have a specific effect on my actions and conversations. How?

Does it feel risky to you to share your faith? Why or why not?

Jesus didn't say He was going to make the disciples influential, happy, or fulfilled. Yet that's what they became. How does that relate to Him making them "fishers of men"?

How did Jesus start the process with them? (Read Matt. 4:23-25). What do you think the men who followed Him learned about fishing for men on that journey?

NEXT STEPS

This week, consider taking some next steps together as a group:

- 1) Discuss attending DISCOVER How to Share My Faith. Who has attended? Who needs to go?
- 2) Each of you share one name from your My 10 List and pray together for these people, and for individual boldness.

EVALUATION/ACTION Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

Bottom Line: The greatest gift you can ever give anyone is an introduction to the God who created them and loves them.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at newpointe.org/daily:

Day 1: Luke 19:26

Day 2: Colossians 4:2-3

Day 3: Colossians 4:4

Day 4: Colossians 4:5-6

Day 5: Colossians 3:16-17

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.
(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)