



## Study Questions

**Message:** “A Biblical Perspective on Risk.”

**Speaker:** Pastor Dave

**Series:** “Meaning in the Madness.”

**Date:** 3/19/23

**Topic:** “How to Manage risk in a biblical way.”

**Texts:** Ecclesiastes 11:1-6

1. Are you more of a cautious person or more of a risk – taker? Think of a few examples. After this message, how might God be calling you to change?
2. Begin by reading the passage together. What things in this section does Solomon say we “don’t know”? Hint: there are four. Why does he point this out?
3. We may not know, but God knows. What is the difference between relying on “fate” and trusting in the sovereignty of God? Does trusting in God’s sovereignty encourage laziness and sloth or diligence and faithfulness? Should the uncertainty of life make us work harder? Why?
4. It has been said faith is spelled R-I-S-K. Do you believe faith requires risk? How so? What are some examples where this could be true?
5. Do you ever feel like Zoad in Dr Seuss’ story? What could be a helpful way to think your way out of the indecision that comes with risk aversion?
6. Where are you asking yourself, “But what if ...” that is keeping you paralyzed in indecision?
7. How does mature dependence on God free us from fear and control? Practically what measures (spiritual practices) can we put in place to strengthen our dependence on God so we are less motivated by fear and control?
8. Pastor Dave’s paraphrase of Solomon’s perspective on risk is, “Go for it.” In what ways do we go for it but veer off the path of wisdom? What can we do to remain in wisdom as we go for it?
9. In the movie Gattaca, Vincent’s brother Anton asks his brother how he had beat the odds of his inferior DNA and saved him from drowning. Vincent’s response was, “I never saved anything for the swim back.” In what specific ways can you stop saving for the swim back?
10. How can we pray for one another today, to move toward risks with both wisdom and courage?