

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



1233 We're Taking a Risk Using These Quotations

Would you say that you're a risk taker? Do you step up or step out, when others would choose to step back or step away? We'll take a good look at what a notable group of people thought about taking risks, and that's next on The Extra Point.

Today, it's about quotations that are about risk. Let's get rolling.

We start with some great advice from poet and publisher T. S. Eliot, who said "Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go."

If you have a distance calculator, please tell me:

1. How far is too far?
2. How far is not far enough?

Those questions can only be answered by figuring the risk and the reward, right?

Jim Rohn, motivational author and speaker, said: "If you are not willing to risk the unusual, you will have to settle for the ordinary." As they say, no risk...no reward.

Author Leo Buscaglia drives this point home more forcefully. He offered: "The person who risks nothing does nothing, has nothing, is nothing, and becomes nothing. He may avoid suffering and sorrow, but he simply cannot learn and feel and change and grow and love and live."

When it comes to risk, Chuck Yeager, Air Force test pilot once said: "You don't concentrate on risks. You concentrate on results. No risk is too great to prevent the necessary job from getting done." There's not much riskier than flying very high and very fast, much of the time in experimental aircraft. Yeager was something.

Educator Claude Bissell would fit right in with Yeager. He said: "Risk more than others think is safe...care more than others think is wise..."

dream more than others think is practical...and expect more than others think is possible."

Some people need guarantees that everything will turn out okay, before they'll move forward. That wouldn't work with President Jimmy Carter, who said: "Go out on a limb. That's where the fruit is."

One of the biggest opportunities in technology is also one of the biggest threats to mankind. Theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking had this to say about artificial intelligence: "Success in creating AI would be the biggest event in human history. Unfortunately, it might also be the last, unless we learn how to avoid the risks."

Here's the reality of risk and reward as it applies to the general workplace, courtesy of engineer and physician Peter Diamandis: "If someone is always to blame, if every time something goes wrong someone has to be punished, people quickly stop taking risks. Without risks, there can't be breakthroughs."

Here's another chunk of reality, this time from an anonymous source: "Opportunity dances with those on the dance floor."

I like what screenwriter Neil Simon once said: "If no one ever took risks, Michaelangelo would have painted the Sistine floor."

We'll close off this treatment of risk with the words of another anonymous contributor. "Ignore the risk, and take the fall. If it's meant to be, it's worth it all."

That's the Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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