

# Take a Risk!

A monthly publication from Risk Takers *for Christ*

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## The Sweetest Words Ever Spoken

by Rev. Dale M. Glading, President

Happy Valentines Day!



Hopefully, you will receive at least one valentine in the mail this year from someone who thinks you are special. If not, let me know and I'll gladly send you one next year...seriously!

No one should be without a valentine on February 14th.

As a kid, I can remember receiving a box of those small candy hearts with the secret messages written on them. "Be Mine!" was one of the more popular ones. It was just short - and sweet - enough to fit onto the tiny heart.



Once I tuned 10, and my passion for sports became a near obsession, I exchanged the inscriptions on candy

hearts for another mid-February treat. It was the siren song emanating from Florida and Arizona that called out, "Pitchers and catchers report to spring training." That single sentence let me know that spring - and my beloved baseball season - was just around the corner.

Sports continued to be my one true love until, of course, hormones kicked in. And once I met my wife, spring training took a permanent back seat to romance. However, I still look forward to spring each year and the

sense of renewed youth and endless possibilities that it brings.

But truth be told, there are words even sweeter than the ones I've whispered in Deanna's ear or written on a Valentine. As you may have guessed, they are found in Scripture.

*"God is love."* 1 John 4:8

He also was the pursuer, initiating that love relationship. *"We love Him because He first loved us."* 1 John 4:19

And yes, He even loved us when we were completely unlovable. *"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* Romans 5:8

Finally, not only does God tell us that He loves us, He has proven it over and over.

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* John 3:16

*"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."* John 15:13

Having received God's unmerited love, our part is simple. We are to love Him - first, foremost and always - and others as ourselves (Luke 10:27). Pretty straightforward, right?

Yes, but easier said than done. None of us loves God, let alone our neighbors, perfectly.

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## Lost Donkey

by Os Hillman, TGIF Today God Is First Volume 2

*"Now the donkeys belonging to Saul's father Kish were lost" - (1 Sam 9:3)*

God used adversity to call the first king of Israel. In 1 Samuel 9 and 10, we find Saul working in the family business, employed by his father, Kish. In Bible times, donkeys represented trade and commerce, for they were the primary means of transporting goods.

Some of Kish's donkeys were missing, so Kish told his son Saul to take a servant with him and go find the missing donkeys. Saul and the servant traveled the countryside three days in search of the missing donkeys - but without results. Saul thought his father might worry about him, so he told the servant, "Let's go back."

The servant replied, "Look, in this town there's a man of God, a prophet. Let's go see him and maybe he will tell us which way to take." In today's terminology, it was time to call in a consultant.

So Saul and the servant went through the town and the prophet - a man named Samuel - was walking toward them along the street. As Samuel walked toward Saul, God told the prophet, "The man who is approaching is

the one I told you about. He will be the leader of My people."

Saul stopped Samuel in the street and said, "Sir, would you please tell me how to find the house of the prophet?"

"I'm the prophet you're looking for," Samuel replied. "Today you'll have dinner with me and tomorrow I'll tell you everything that is in your heart."

Saul's pathway to leadership led through the experience of a business setback: a missing herd of donkeys. God arranged every step of Saul's journey.

It was God who sent the donkeys away, which made it necessary for Saul to go searching for them. When Saul was ready to give up the search, God arranged for the servant to suggest that they look for a prophet in a nearby city. The Lord spoke to the prophet and told him to expect Saul's arrival. There was not a single detail left to chance. God's plan worked flawlessly.

So it is in your life and mine. God is in control of every detail in your life.

*Reprinted by permission from the author. Os Hillman is an international speaker and author of 15 books on workplace calling. To learn more, visit <http://www.MarketplaceLeaders.org>"*

## The Sweetest Words Ever Spoken

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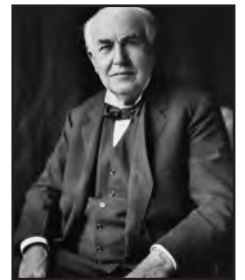
However, that doesn't mean that we should stop trying. After all, *"love will cover a multitude of sins"* (1 Peter 4:8).

So, this Valentine's Day - and every other day as well - do your best to keep the "greatest commandments" found in

Matthew 22:36-40. Why? Because Jesus said that our love for one another would be a sign to the unsaved world that we are His disciples (John 13:35).

If we succeed in doing so, "Be Mine" will pale in comparison to the words we will hear on Judgement Day: *"Well done, good and faithful servant... enter into the joy of your lord."* Matthew 25:23

## Notable Quotables from Thomas Edison



*"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work."*

*"Everything comes to him who hustles while he waits."*

*"Be courageous. I have seen many depressions in business. Always America has emerged from these stronger and more prosperous. Be brave as your fathers before you. Have faith! Go forward!"*

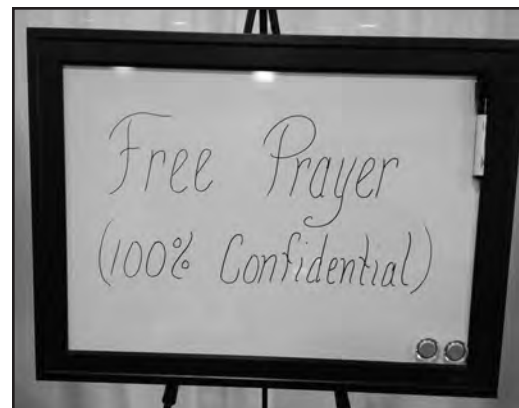
*"The value of an idea lies in the using of it."*

*"Restlessness is discontent and discontent is the first necessity of progress. Show me a thoroughly satisfied man and I will show you a failure."*

## Risk Takers Exhibits at ACA Conference

Risk Takers for Christ was one of the prominent organizations approved to exhibit at the American Correctional Association's Winter Conference in Orlando, January 4-9, 2018. Corrections professionals from throughout North America attended the conference, and Risk Takers received accolades across the board from wardens and other high-ranking prison officials.

RTC president, Rev. Dale Glading, has been an Executive Gold Member of ACA since 1990.







## Old Hickory Golf Tournament Fundraiser

Saturday, April 28, 2018  
Sandridge Golf Club, Vero Beach FL  
8:00 AM shotgun start

Step back in time for a 1920's era golf tournament featuring Bobby Jones replica golf balls and hickory-shafted clubs. Four-man scramble format including greens fees, unlimited range balls, continental breakfast, buffet lunch, putting contest and prizes. Proceeds benefit Risk Takers for Christ's outreach to prisoners and at-risk youth.

Golfers will be permitted to use their own clubs, but must use the 1920's era replica balls for every shot. Hickory-shafted putters will be supplied for the putting contest. Other hickory-shafted clubs will be on display and available for purchase as part of a silent auction.

Tournament price is \$120 per golfer (\$60 of which is tax deductible). EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT... \$25 off per golfer / \$100 off per foursome for signups before April 1st.

Please visit our website for more information:  
[www.risktakersforchrist.org](http://www.risktakersforchrist.org)

## Our Staff & Board Members

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## Get Busy Serving... and Sitting, Too!

by C.H. Spurgeon

*"Martha was cumbered about much serving."*

- Luke 10:40 (KJV)

Her fault was not that she served: the condition of a servant well becomes every Christian. "I serve" should be the motto of all the princes of the royal family of heaven. Nor was it her fault that she had "much serving." We cannot do too much. Let us do all that we possibly can; let head, and heart, and hands, be engaged in the Master's service. It was no fault of hers that she was busy preparing a feast for the Master. Happy Martha, to have an opportunity of entertaining so blessed a guest; and happy, too, to have the spirit to throw her whole soul so heartily into the engagement.

Her fault was that she grew "cumbered with much serving," so that she forgot Him, and only remembered the service. She allowed service to override communion, and so presented one duty stained with the blood of another.

We ought to be Martha and Mary in one: we should do much service, and have much communion at the same time. For this we need great grace. It is easier to serve than to commune. Joshua never grew weary in fighting the Amalekites; but Moses, on the top of the mountain in prayer, needed two helpers to sustain his hands. The more spiritual the exercise, the sooner we tire of it.

The first thing for our soul's health, the first thing for His glory, and the first thing for our own usefulness, is to keep ourselves in perpetual communion with the Lord Jesus, and to see that the vital spirituality of our religion is maintained over and above everything else in the world.

## Upcoming Risk Takers Events:

- ◆ February 10: Basketball at Tomoka CI, Daytona Beach FL
- ◆ March 5: RTC board meeting, Vero Beach FL
- ◆ March 10: Basketball at Putnam CI, East Palatka FL
- ◆ March 22: Vero Beach Prayer Breakfast
- ◆ March 24: Softball at Avon Park CI & Okeechobee CI

**Take a Risk! is a publication of Risk Takers for Christ, PO Box 651421, Vero Beach FL 32965-1421.  
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