

Leaps of Faith

Quotes and Wisdom

Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure or nothing.
– Helen Keller

Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out. –James B. Conant

Sometimes your only available transportation is a leap of faith. -Margaret Shepard

If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.
- Psalm 139:9-10

Don't be afraid to take a big step. You can't cross a chasm in two small jumps. – David Lloyd George

If we listened to our intellect, we'd never have a love affair. We'd never have a friendship. We'd never go into business because we'd be too cynical. Well, that's nonsense. You've got to jump off cliffs all the time and build your wings on the way down.
– Annie Dillard

You must lose a fly to catch a trout. – George Herbert

I wondered about the explorers who'd sailed their ships to the end of the world. How terrified they must have been when they risked falling over the edge; how amazed to discover, instead, places they had seen only in their dreams.
– Jodi Picoult, *Handle With Care*

And the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom.
- Anais Nin

Don't ask yourself what the world needs; ask yourself what makes you come alive. And then go and do that. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive. - Harold Whitman

Why do you stay in prison when the door is so wide open? - Rumi

Take heed, dear Friends, to the promptings of love and truth in your hearts. Trust them as the leadings of God whose Light shows us our darkness and brings us to new life.
- Britain Yearly Meeting, Quaker Faith & Practice, 1995

Perhaps the most neglected of all the advises is that we should live adventurously. If there is one wish I would pray the Spirit to put into our Christmas stockings, it is warmth, openness, passion, a bit of emotion that doesn't mind making a fool of itself occasionally.
- Gerald Priestland

There's something liberating about not pretending. Dare to embarrass yourself. – Drew Barrymore

What would I do if I were not afraid? - Martha Manglesdorf

There can be no vulnerability without risk. There can be no community without vulnerability. There can be no peace, and ultimately no life, without community. – M. Scott Peck

A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are for. – John A. Shedd

Everyone has a 'risk muscle.' You keep it in shape by trying new things. If you don't, it atrophies. Make a point of using it at least once a day. – Roger von Oech

I am always doing that which I cannot do, in order that I may learn how to do it. – Pablo Picasso

Do not be too timid and squeamish about your actions. All life is an experiment. The more experiments you make the better. What if they are a little coarse, and you may get your coat soiled or torn? What if you do fail, and get fairly rolled in the dirt once or twice. Up again, you shall never be so afraid of a tumble. – Ralph Waldo Emerson

You have to fail in order to practice being brave. - Mary Tyler Moore

Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves like locked rooms or books that are written in a foreign tongue. The point is to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live your way some distant day into the answers. – Rainer Maria Rilke

Do one thing every day that scares you. - Eleanor Roosevelt

Once we believe in ourselves we can risk curiosity, wonder, spontaneous delight, or any experience that reveals the human spirit. – e. e. cummings

What great thing would you attempt if you knew you could not fail? -- Robert Schuller

Courage is fear that has said its prayers. - Dorothy Bernard

A leading does not come to us simply so we may have one. Eventually its inwardness takes outward form and affects the rest of the human community. When we are led to truth it is so we may live by it and do something with it. - Paul Lacey

Leadings rarely include instruction sheets or directions. - Margery Post Abbott

Jesus promised those who would follow his leadings only three things: that they should be absurdly happy, entirely fearless, and always in trouble. - Marty Babcock

I'll play it first, and tell you what it is later. -- Miles Davis

The Cape

-Guy Clark

Eight years old with a floursack cape tied all around his neck
He climbed up on the garage figurin' what the heck
He screwed his courage up so tight the whole thing came unwound
He got a runnin' start and bless his heart he headed for the ground

CHORUS

He's one of those who knows that life is just a leap of faith
Spread your arms and hold your breath and always trust your cape

All grown up with a floursack cape tied around his dreams
He was full of spit and vinegar he was bustin' at the seams
He licked his finger and he checked the wind it was gonna be do or die
He wasn't scared of nothin' boys and he was pretty sure he could fly

Old and grey with a floursack cape tied all around his head
He's still jumpin' off the garage and will be till he's dead
All these years the people said he's actin' like a kid
He did not know he could not fly == so he did