

## News Story Summary

Alain Robert, a free climber who has scaled some of the world's tallest buildings, is also known as the French Spider Man. His most recent feat was climbing the 502-foot Skyper building in Frankfurt, Germany in late September. He climbed it in around 20 minutes and did so without ropes or other safety equipment. He has also climbed to the top of the 68-floor Cheung Kong Center in Hong Kong, the Empire State Building in New York City, and the Eiffel Tower in Paris, often without safety harnesses. He has been arrested on multiple occasions for his unauthorized climbs.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the term “French Spider Man arrested in Germany”.)

## Focus Attention

Prior to the group time, tape a large sheet of paper to a wall and write at the top, *The Riskiest Thing I've Ever Done*. As the group arrives, distribute markers and direct them to write on the paper the riskiest feat they have ever attempted (rock climbing, bungee jumping, skiing, etc.). Review their answers and lead the group to decide who the biggest risk taker in your group is.

Tell the story of Alain Robert, the French Spider Man, who climbed the skyscraper in Germany without safety gear. Ask: *How do the risks you've taken compare to Alain's? Why do you think he takes such risks with his life? What makes a risk worth taking?* Explain that today's session focuses on an Old Testament story in which God's people refused to take a risk—to trust God and His promises—and they suffered the consequences.

## Challenge

To summarize the session, remind the group of the risks taken by Alain Robert. Allow the group to suggest reasons a person might give for taking a risk. Ask: *What's the difference between risk and faith? When has God asked you to take a risk—to trust Him? What was the end result? What's the scariest part about taking risks and trusting God?* Direct the group to think of a current life situation that involves trusting God and His promises. Give the group time to pray silently about that situation. Lead the group to silently complete the following sentence: I will trust God with.... Close in prayer, asking for God to give the group courage to trust Him.