Myth 1. You are never safer than when you are at the center of God's will.

Correction: God's purposes will be fully accomplished in our lives when we are following him with our whole heart (Deut 6:5, Luke 10:27, Matt 22:37).

Myth <u>2. The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church.</u>

Correction: The blood of Christ is the seed of the Church. (2 Sam 4:11; Ps 72:14; 79:3,10; Is 26:21; Joel 3:21; Rev 6:10; 17:6; 18:24). The "seed" of the church is God's Spirit working through his people to bring people to him. Mark 1:8; Jn. 1:33-34; Acts 1:4-5

Myth 3. Escape or deliverance is the priority.

Correction: The Lord's eyes are on us; he will instruct us in the way we should go. (Job 34:21; Ps 32:8)

Myth <u>4. You must be building up all kinds of reward because of the risks you are taking.</u> Correction: **We will be rewarded for our faithful, joy-filled obedient endurance to our last breath.** (Heb 10:35)

Myth 5. Just keep a positive mental attitude and everything will be okay. Correction: We can always have hope because our hope is in God, not in our circumstances. (Is 52:12; Hosea 2:14-15; Heb 6:19-20

Myth 6. We're not really risking, are we?

Correction: Cross-cultural risk is real (Matt 10), and is an honor when we are called to risk our lives in whatever measure for the sake of Christ. We need to face it.

Myth 7 We've already counted the cost.

Correction: We know ministry will be costly; we will continue to count the cost in each stage of life and situation and follow Jesus with joy.

Myth 8 *Faith is proportional to the amount of risk.* Correction: **Faith is persistently obeying Christ whatever the risk.**

Myth 9. If something bad happens, it is because I/we didn't pray enough. Correction: I will pray and work. Even when bad things happen, I live with the unbreakable conviction Christ will bring justice with His imminent return.

Myth 10. *Freedom means security*. Correction: **Security is not a feeling.**

Myth 11. *Risking is spiritual service. All this practical stuff is unnecessary.* Correction: **Risk encountered in spiritual service must be managed holistically** (organizationally, systemically, governmentally, personally—physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually).

Myth 12 Suffering for Christ while fulfilling my "Calling" overseas *always* **glorifies God. Myth corrected:** "*What glorifies God is my obedience in whatever he calls me to – suffering or escape to safety.*