



## Lesson #2: True Friendship: Jonathan & David (1 Sam. 17:55-18:4)

Christians know that God said from the beginning of creation that *“it is not good for man to be \_\_\_\_\_”* (Genesis 2:18). God created us to enjoy companionship. It is no accident that in the early chapters of Genesis God said, *“Let US create man in OUR image.”* We have the conversation of the Godhead helping us create our own theology of relationships. This Bible is not for a hermit’s existence. The Bible is for a connected, \_\_\_\_\_ existence.

How then can we work to allow natural opportunities for relationships to be fostered? We must create a theology of friendship. As we do so the best place to turn in 1 Samuel and look at what is perhaps the most famous of friendships in the Bible – Jonathan & David.

Together, we are going to discover 3 \_\_\_\_\_ that are exemplified by these two men as they form this friendship.

### TRUE FRIENDSHIPS ARE \_\_\_\_\_

One of the primary characteristics of our fallen humanity is our own self-centeredness, and yet, true friendships are not based on selfishness.

#### A. Making friends happens best when you seek to \_\_\_\_\_ and not to \_\_\_\_\_

Jonathan had everything to lose and really nothing to gain in becoming David’s friend. From an earthly perspective this was a \_\_\_\_\_ friendship for Jonathan. Yet, even though David seemed the least likely to be entertained by royalty it was none other than the son of the king who becomes David’s closest friend.

#### B. Making friends happens best when you build on the \_\_\_\_\_ not the \_\_\_\_\_

The key to David and Jonathan’s friendship is found in 1 Samuel 18:1, *“The soul of Jonathan was \_\_\_\_\_ with the soul of David.”* These two men came from remarkably different backgrounds and yet they were knit together by the grace of God. The remarkable feature of these men, when it comes to their friendship, is that these men both loved the Lord. That is the firmest \_\_\_\_\_ of any real friendship – A genuine and mutual love for the Lord. There is nothing that brings greater security to a relationship than a strong Christian \_\_\_\_\_.

### TRUE FRIENDSHIPS ARE \_\_\_\_\_

Friendship don’t just “happen.” They take time and effort.

#### A. Firm friendships \_\_\_\_\_ the relationship rather than just \_\_\_\_\_ to one

It seems that in this text the Spirit of God is revealing that \_\_\_\_\_ is the initiator in this relationship. David really could not initiate the friendship since he was a simple shepherd boy and Jonathan was a prince. But Jonathan was willing to reach beyond the culture, and sociological, and look to the \_\_\_\_\_.

#### B. Firm friendships remain even through the \_\_\_\_\_ of others

Even in the presence of his father Jonathan was willing to go above and beyond to show his loyalty to David (1 Samuel 18:4). If you trace the history of Israel you’ll not that Saul was no friend of David’s. At one point Saul even wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ him (1 Samuel 19:1) but it was Jonathan who went to his father and spoke well of David (1 Samuel 19:4). In fact, not only did Jonathan \_\_\_\_\_ his friend, but he also rebuked his father for his attitude toward David.

### TRUE FRIENDSHIPS ARE \_\_\_\_\_

The truth is that it’s actually rather easy to have friends (or at least be friendly) when things are going well but the true test of friendship happens in the midst of \_\_\_\_\_.

#### A. There is a desire to \_\_\_\_\_

Jonathan and David’s friendship was a \_\_\_\_\_ one that would last for decades (1 Samuel 18:3). Jonathan’s son, Mephibosheth would become the benefactor of this covenant that Jonathan and David made (1 Samuel 19:2-7). David willingly took care of Jonathan’s crippled son because he loved Jonathan.

#### B. There is a desire to \_\_\_\_\_ rather than be \_\_\_\_\_

Jonathan pledged himself to David and gave to him gifts that signified their new friendship (1 Samuel 18:4). So what was the immediate result of Jonathan’s kindness to David? 1 Samuel 18:5 gives us the answer. David was \_\_\_\_\_ widely because Jonathan took the risk of bringing him in to the group that Jonathan had already established himself a part of.

### Concluding Thoughts

Jonathan & David exemplify for us what true friendship is all about. Some have marked the stages of their friendship this way:

1. Their friendship had an \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_
2. Their friendship had a \_\_\_\_\_
3. Their friendship had an \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_
4. Their friendship had a \_\_\_\_\_