

More Than A Story
"The Power of Friendship"
Jonathan & David
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In 1 Samuel we read of a unique friendship; a friendship between David and Jonathan. Two men that experienced an immediate and special bond that when looked at closely models for us the kind of friendships that God desires for us to experience.

1. Friends _____ one another _____.

"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near." Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

- Friends encourage with _____.

"But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness." Hebrews 3:13 (NIV)

2. Friends _____.

- A Sacrificial friend _____.

"Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves." Romans 12:10 (NIV)

3. Friends are _____.

"There are 'friends' who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24 (NLT)

- A loyal friend _____.

"Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy." Proverbs 27:6 (NLT)

- A loyal friend _____.

"Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you." Ephesians 4:31-32 (NLT)

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- A loyal friend _____.

“Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.” 1 Corinthians 13:7 (NLT)

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Discussion Questions

1. Read Hebrews 10:24-25. We are given specific guidance on relating to one another. Discuss how motivating one another, meeting together and encouraging one another grows a friendship. What are some practical ways these are accomplished?
2. Why is daily encouragement so important? Are there people in your life that do that for you? What can you do to become a greater encouragement to your friends? What can you do as a Life Group to assure this happens?
3. Read Philippians 2:5-9. In an act of sacrificial love, Christ humbled himself and gave up His life for us. What are some ways we can relate to our friends in a similar manner? How can we look more like Jesus in our friendships?
4. David and Jonathan were very loyal friends. Discuss the three characteristics given of a loyal friend and why they are so important. Give examples of how they are practically lived out.

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