

Bible Stories for Adults

David and Jonathan

1 Samuel 18 - 20

Opening

Gathering: Tell about someone who has been a true friend to you. How have they shown their love?

Today's Focus: David and Jonathan's friendship is an example for us to demonstrate Christ's love to others.

Key Verses: *Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.* John 15:13

A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17

Opening Prayer

Lesson

Prince Jonathan (*1 Samuel 13:2-5*)

Who was Jonathan?

1 Samuel 14:49

When do we first hear of Jonathan?

1 Samuel 13:2

What did Jonathan do with his troops at Gibeah?

1 Samuel 13:3-4

Jonathan at Gilgal (*1 Samuel 14*)

How did Jonathan show his faith at Gilgal while the rest of the army melted away in fear?

1 Samuel 14:6

He had not inquired of the Lord. How would he know if God was with him?

1 Samuel 14:8-10

Was Jonathan correct in trusting God for success?

1 Samuel 14:13-14

How did God use Jonathan's success to save Israel from this massive army?

1 Samuel 14:15-16

What did Jonathan do during the mop-up effort of this battle?

1 Samuel 14:24, 27

What happened as a result of this situation?

1 Samuel 14:43-45

New Family Ties (*1 Samuel 18:1-9*)

Where did David live after he killed Goliath?

1 Samuel 18:2

What did Jonathan think of this new addition to the family?

1 Samuel 18:1, 3-4

What did other members of the royal family think of the new addition?

1 Samuel 18:20

How did others feel about David?

1 Samuel 18:5

How did Saul feel about David?

1 Samuel 18:6-9

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Saul's Jealousy (*1 Samuel 18:10-16*)

How serious was Saul's jealousy?

1 Samuel 18:10-11

What did Saul do to get David out of his sight?

1 Samuel 18:12-14

Did Saul feel better about David when he brought success to the military?

1 Samuel 18:15-16

Just Call Me Dad (*1 Samuel 18:17-29*)

What had been rumored that Saul promised to do for whoever killed Goliath?

1 Samuel 17:25

Did Saul offer his daughter to David in marriage as was rumored?

1 Samuel 18:17

Did Saul's tactic work?

1 Samuel 18:18-19

How did Saul try again?

1 Samuel 18:20-22

The Bride Price (*1 Samuel 18:23-29*)

How did Saul play on David's humility this time to further his intent?

1 Samuel 18:23-25

How did David respond to Saul's price?

1 Samuel 18:26-27

Did David's extra effort please Saul?

1 Samuel 18:28-30

David Protected by Saul's Kids (*1 Samuel 19:1-17*)

What did Jonathan do when he heard that his dad wanted to kill David?

1 Samuel 19:1-3

How did Jonathan stand up to his dad for David?

1 Samuel 19:4-7

Was Saul's acceptance of David permanent?

1 Samuel 19:8-10

How did Michal save David when she heard that her dad wanted to kill him?

1 Samuel 19:11-13 (11-17)

David Protected by Someone Greater (*1 Samuel 19:18-24*)

To whom did David flee?

1 Samuel 19:18

What happened when Saul learned that David was in Ramah?

1 Samuel 19:19-20

Did Saul recognize and accept that God was protecting David?

1 Samuel 19:21-22

How did God protect David when Saul went himself?

1 Samuel 19:23-24

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Dad Wouldn't Do That (*1 Samuel 20:1-11*)

- Where did David go after Saul pursued him at Ramah?
1 Samuel 20:1-2
- Why did Jonathan believe David was safe with Saul?
1 Samuel 19:6
- Why did David think Jonathan was ignorant of Saul's intent to kill him?
1 Samuel 20:3
- What test did David devise to prove Saul's intent to Jonathan?
1 Samuel 20:4-7
- How did David have Jonathan think through his commitment to David?
1 Samuel 20:8-9 (8-11)

A Friend You Can Count On (*1 Samuel 20:12-23*)

- Did Jonathan agree with this plan?
1 Samuel 20:12-13
- How did Jonathan and David affirm their friendship at this point of crisis?
1 Samuel 20:14-17, 23
- How would Jonathan get word to David without letting Saul find David?
1 Samuel 20:18-22

The Test (*1 Samuel 20:24-31*)

- What happened on the first night of the festival?
1 Samuel 20:24-26
- What happened on the second night of the festival?
1 Samuel 20:27-29
- How did Saul respond to Jonathan's answer?
1 Samuel 20:30

- Why did Saul feel that Jonathan should also want David dead?
1 Samuel 20:31
- Was Jonathan concerned with protecting the throne?
1 Samuel 23:15-18

Saying Goodbye (*1 Samuel 20:32-42*)

- How serious was Saul's intent to kill David?
1 Samuel 20:32-33
- How did Jonathan react once he knew his father wanted to kill David?
1 Samuel 20:34-35a
- Did he give David the secret sign as he promised?
1 Samuel 20:35b-40

- How upset was David that he would have to leave his friend?
1 Samuel 20:41
- What were their last words before David left?
1 Samuel 20:42

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A Lasting Friendship (2 Samuel 9)

Did Jonathan end up serving under David as he had said?

1 Samuel 31:2

How did David respond to this?

2 Samuel 1:4, 11-12, 17, 26

Did this story of loving friendship between David and Jonathan end at this time?

2 Samuel 9:1, 3b, 6-7

Be a Friend (Proverbs 17:17)

As a friend, what times do you love?

Proverbs 17:17

As a friend, how much can you love?

1 Samuel 18:1

As a friend, how close do you get?

Proverbs 18:24

What is a Friend? (John 15:13-17)

What is the greatest way a friend can show his love?

John 15:13

How do we show that we are Jesus' friends?

John 15:14

What does Jesus command?

John 15:17

How does Jesus show that He has called us friends?

John 15:15

Why did Jesus choose us?

John 15:16

Closing Prayer

Response - Consider and meditate on one each day this week

1. What friends have I loved as myself? Has my love for my friends been apparent to them?
(1 Samuel 18:1; 2 Samuel 15:31-34; 16:16-19; 17:6-7, 14-16; Job 6:14; Mark 12:30-31)
2. When have I been jealous of others? How have I acted toward others in jealousy?
(1 Samuel 18:9-11; Proverbs 27:4; Romans 13:13-14; 1 Corinthians 13:4)
3. When have I said or done something to another with less than honorable motives?
(1 Samuel 18:17-29; 1 Chronicles 28:9; Proverbs 16:2; James 4:3)
4. How have I stood up for a friend despite possible risk to me?
(1 Samuel 19:4-7; 20:30-33; Proverbs 18:24; Matthew 9:11; 11:19; John 15:13-17)
5. Can my friends count on me? Will I ever desert them in time of need?
(1 Samuel 20; Psalm 41:9; 88:8; Proverbs 17:9; 19:4, 7; Matthew 26:47-50; Acts 24:33)