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
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
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

You can find Bible Stories for Adults on the web at www.biblestoriesforadults.com
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)*