

WELCOME TO
GOSPEL OUTREACH CENTER

February Series
RELATIONSHIPS



**RELATIONSHIP
WITH OTHERS**

FRIENDSHIPS

Feb 19 2016

Scripture Readings

1 Samuel 18 :1-4

1 Samuel 19 :1-7

1 Samuel 18 :1-4

18 After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself. ² From that day Saul kept David with him and did not let him return home to his family. ³ And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. ⁴ Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt.

1 Samuel 19 :1-7

19 Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David. But Jonathan had taken a great liking to David ² and warned him, “My father Saul is looking for a chance to kill you. Be on your guard tomorrow morning; go into hiding and stay there. ³ I will go out and stand with my father in the field where you are. I’ll speak to him about you and will tell you what I find out.”

⁴ Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, “Let not the king do wrong to his servant David; he has not wronged you, and what he has done has benefited you greatly. ⁵ He took his life in his hands when he killed the Philistine. The Lord won a great victory for all Israel, and you saw it and were glad. Why then would you do wrong to an innocent man like David by killing him for no reason?”⁶ Saul listened to Jonathan and took this oath: “As surely as the Lord lives, David will not be put to death.”

⁷ So Jonathan called David and told him the whole conversation. He brought him to Saul, and David was with Saul as before.

**GREAT FRIENDS
ARE
HARD TO FIND,
DIFFICULT TO LEAVE,
IMPOSSIBLE TO FORGET.**

Making a million friends
is not a **Miracle.**

The miracle is to make
A Friend
who will stand by you
when millions
are against you...

**A TRUE FRIEND IS SOMEONE
WHO SEES THE PAIN IN YOUR
EYES WHILE EVERYONE ELSE
BELIEVES YOUR SMILE.**

Relationship

- 1.the state of being connected or related**
- 2.association by blood or marriage; kinship**
- 3.the mutual dealings, connections, or feelings that exist between two parties, countries, people, etc: a business relationship**
- 4.an emotional liaison**

-As you journey through life, you will make and lose friends.

-Thank God for the friends you have and pray for those you don't have any longer.

-But, as you travel, remember that there is a Friend who outshines all the friends you will make, or lose, along life's way.

**-Jesus was called, "A friend of sinners"
by His enemies.**

**-It's a sweet name given to the Lord Jesus
Christ**

**-To think that those who are called the
enemies of God have, for themselves, a
Friend of such noble stature and quality
as Jesus. He is the Friend of the
friendless!**

Matthew 11:16-19

¹⁶ “To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others: ¹⁷ “‘We played the pipe for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’ ¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ But wisdom is proved right by her deeds.”

Jonathan and David

-You have probably met and known many different people in your life.

-Most of them may simply be acquaintances, while others you might consider friends.

-Of these, there may be only a few that you would consider *close* friends.

-Most likely, there is one person who is as close to you as a brother or sister. He or she could be, as the Bible says, “a friend that sticks closer than a brother” (Prov. 18:24),

-Someone in whom you can confide and trust, and with whom you can share your hopes and dreams.

-A friend who is there not only through the good times, but also the bad—through thick and thin—someone who will not desert you when the going gets tough.

-A true friendship that stands the test of trials and time is rare.

-Friends may come and go, but to have a lifelong, close, personal friendship is truly a great blessing.

-The story of Jonathan and David is the story of one such friendship

Jonathan and David

Jonathan—a Prince of Israel

Jonathan, prince and son of Saul, was the heir apparent to the throne of Israel. He was destined to rule after the death of his father. Jonathan was well aware of this and the promises God would have made to Saul had he been faithful (**I Sam. 13:13**).

Jonathan and David

David—a Keeper of Sheep

On the other hand, David, the youngest son of Jesse, was a ruddy, bright-eyed shepherd boy. On two occasions, he rescued his father's sheep from a predator—a lion and a bear—grabbing hold of them and slaying them (I Sam. 17:34-36).

Lasting Friendship Established

—David's defeating the giant **Goliath**. Was the great event that signaled both the beginning of Jonathan and David's friendship and their falling from favor in Saul's eyes

David and Jonathan

1 Samuel 18 :1-4

18 After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself. 2 From that day Saul kept David with him and did not let him return home to his family. 3 And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. 4 Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt.

- **There was oneness in their spirit**
- **Jonathan loved David like himself**
- **Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt.**

1 Samuel 19 :1-3

19 Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David. But Jonathan had taken a great liking to David ² and warned him, “My father Saul is looking for a chance to kill you. Be on your guard tomorrow morning; go into hiding and stay there. ³ I will go out and stand with my father in the field where you are. I’ll speak to him about you and will tell you what I find out.”

1 Samuel 19 :4-5

⁴ Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, “Let not the king do wrong to his servant David; he has not wronged you, and what he has done has benefited you greatly. ⁵ He took his life in his hands when he killed the Philistine. The Lord won a great victory for all Israel, and you saw it and were glad. Why then would you do wrong to an innocent man like David by killing him for no reason?”

1 Samuel 19:6-7

⁶ Saul listened to Jonathan and took this oath: “As surely as the Lord lives, David will not be put to death.” ⁷ So Jonathan called David and told him the whole conversation. He brought him to Saul, and David was with Saul as before.

**WHO IS A
REAL
FRIEND?**

1.A REAL FRIEND SACRIFICES

John 15:12-15 (NIV)

¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

1.A REAL FRIEND SACRIFICES

- Perhaps you have had a friend for which you would do anything.**
- Or, perhaps you have been fortunate enough to have a friend that would do anything for you.**
- If so, then be glad, for a friend of that degree is a rare thing!**

1.A REAL FRIEND SACRIFICES

Jesus loved us so much that He was willing to die in our place on the cross. Even when we were His enemies and lost in sin, He still willingly died for us.

1.A REAL FRIEND SACRIFICES

-Many think they need a friend with money, or power, or prestige, or influence, or a million other things the world places its hopes on. In truth, the sinner needs a friend who can save him from his sins and keep him out of Hell. -----

-Jesus, and Jesus alone, is that Friend! A thousand others could have died, but none other could have paid the sinner's due! Jesus died so that sinners might live in Him!

-Is Jesus your Friend

-Are you willing to sacrifice for a friend.

1.A REAL FRIEND SACRIFICES

- Are you willing to sacrifice for a friend.**
- Are you willing to go without so that your friend can have**
- Are you willing to sacrifice your time, your resources and even reputation for the sake of your friend**
- Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt.**

2.A REAL FRIEND LOVES

A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. Pro. 17:17

-One characteristic of true human friendship is an undying love that unaffected by problems, misunderstandings or harsh words.

-It is a love that transcends all these things and continues to function as if nothing ever happened.

A love like this between two human friends is almost nonexistent!

2.A REAL FRIEND LOVES

- Jesus, on the other hand, displays this kind of love without wavering!
- Notice His promise in Jeremiah 31:3, "*Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love.*"
- There is nothing which man can do that can alter the love of God for him.
- Even though we are undeserving and horribly flawed at our best, He loves us with an unchanging, everlasting love! III. Rom. 8:31-39.

2.A REAL FRIEND LOVES

- Jesus is a real Friend because He loves us unconditionally.**
- He places no limits on His great love for man.**
- Remember this, "God loves you!"**

2.A REAL FRIEND LOVES

- Jonathan loved David unconditionally**
- He did not love David because of what David was giving him, he just loved him.**
- Do we love our friends with conditions**
- God desires that we love others as He loved us.**

3. A REAL FRIEND IS STEADFAST

-Proverbs 18:24 (NIV)²⁴ One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

-There have been times when we have all been betrayed by someone we thought to be our friend.

-It is never pleasant and the pain never really goes completely away from our hearts.

-But, what a joy it is to find a friend that doesn't turn and walk away from us when we have hard times, or when we down.

3.A REAL FRIEND IS STEADFAST

-Jesus is a steadfast Friend.

There will never come a day when He isn't there beside us to keep us, guide us and to comfort us.

-He is a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother!

3.A REAL FRIEND IS STEADFAST

-Besides being steadfast in comforting us in times of sorrow, Jesus has given us His word that He will forever be with us until our journey has ended. Matt. 28:20.

-What's more, He has send unto us the Holy Spirit who performs a wonderful comforting ministry in our lives, John 14:16-18.

3.A REAL FRIEND IS STEADFAST

-Thank God for those friends who will stand by when the going gets tough.

-Jonathan was such a Friend. He stood by David throughout when Saul planned to have him killed.

-He was not going to let go of their friendship just because others didn't like him

-We must stand by our friends despite what others are saying and planning against them

-Be the Steadfast Friend

3.A REAL FRIEND IS STEADFAST

- Did someone walkaway from you when everything wasn't going right?**
- Make a commitment to stand by your friends even when stuff is not going well for them**
- The prodigal son lost all his friends when life was tough.**
- We all need Friends who will be there for us come rain, sunshine, darkness, pain, chaos.-They will be there**

4.A REAL FRIEND PROTECTS

-Instead of wanting and seeking protection for ourselves....we freely offer it unselfishly to others. We put their needs first.

Because Jesus is our friend, He protects us.

He protects us today. **Psalm 125:2** says, "*As the mountains round about Jerusalem, So the Lord is around about his people from henceforth and even forever.*"

Psalm 34:7 says, "*The angel of the LORD encampeth all around those who fear Him, And delivereth them.*"

4.A REAL FRIEND PROTECTS

How do good friends protect us?

a. They know how to keep private things private.

Proverbs 17:9 says, "*He that covereth a transgression seeketh love, But he who repeateth a matter separateth very friends.*"

Proverbs 16:28 says, "*A forward (perverse) man soweth strife, And a whisperer separateth the best of friends.*"

4.A REAL FRIEND PROTECTS

How do good friends protect us?

b. They will not allow others to speak badly of us.

I recently read of a mother who decked another mother because she made fun of her handicapped child. If necessary, they fight for us.

4.A REAL FRIEND PROTECTS

Jonathan was a genuine friend to David.

When Jonathan's father, Saul, planned to kill David, Jonathan warned him and helped him escape.

-1 Samuel 20:4 & 9 Jonathan said to David, “Whatever you want me to do, I’ll do for you.”

9 “Never!” Jonathan said. “If I had the least inkling that my father was determined to harm you, wouldn’t I tell you?”

4.A REAL FRIEND PROTECTS

=Can your friends count on you to protect them from evil people

=Are you willing to fight for your friends

=Are you willing to be hated for the sake of your friends

4.A REAL FRIEND PROTECTS

—A lot of great people destined for greatness have been destroyed by friends who failed to protect them from their adversaries.

-Why would one keep quiet and listen to destructive gossip when their friends integrity is being torn apart?

-Are you not his/her friend-why not fight for or defend your friend?

4.A REAL FRIEND PROTECTS

- Others destinies have been destroyed by “gossipprayer”
- People who were considered friends went out asking prayers for a friend who shared their burdens, struggles and family issues and had requested confidentiality.
- Before long the confidential information is all over town because a friend went out gossip praying.
- They ought to have covered them, instead they exposed them to destruction.

4.A REAL FRIEND PROTECTS

-A true friend will also seek protection for through prayers

-They will pray and Fast with and for you

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10⁹ Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor:¹⁰ If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

How To Treat Your Friends

Luke 6:31 *And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.*

Romans 12:10 *Love one another with brotherly affection. Out do one another in showing honor.*

How To Treat Your Friends

Ephesians 4:29-32 *Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*

How To Treat Your Friends

Colossians 3:12-14 *Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.*

WHO IS A REAL FRIEND?

1.A REAL FRIEND SACRIFICES

2.A REAL FRIEND LOVES

3.A REAL FRIEND IS STEADFAST

4.A REAL FRIEND PROTECTS



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THANK YOU
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**Wishing you the best in
all your relationships**