

11/2/2025

There is a lesson in David & Jonathan:

- God designed friendships, He gave the goals, To enable us to see...
 - God's goals *accomplished* in others.
- Do you see friendships this way?
 - Are you and I making "kings" through our friendships?
 - Their relationship began when one saw the power of God in the other.
 - Jonathan sees David kill Goliath.
- Why are true, genuine friendships:
 - So few?
 - So hard to come by?
 - So rare?
- Why don't people *commit* to friendships anymore?

Turn to **John 15**: [our scripture reading]

Drawing life from the vine (*vs. 1-9*)

Total dependence on the Lord (vine)

And dependence on Him will not make me/you independent of others.

Now look at verses (*vs. 12-17*) – the illustration of God's love... here is what it looks like in your life.

Verse 12 is a constant requirement – *keep on loving others!*

In the middle of **v. 17** is how, the ingredients of this love:

- Because:
- Jesus loved you (*v. 12*)
- He laid down life (*v. 13*)
- Obedience to the Lord (*v. 14*)

God reaches out to you (*v. 16*) so that (*v. 17*), love!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 says: ⁹ Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. ¹⁰ If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. NLT

You need:

- That closeness, that help,
- You need that encouragement,
 - You need that person
 - To cry with, to pray with,
 - To share your struggles with...
 - Someone besides your spouse!
- That was Jonathan to David.
 - 2 spiritual men who loved the Lord.

David had some tough times ahead...



And both Jonathan and David had their baggage/struggles in their own life!

- David:
 - Neglected by family, ← [pains of the past]
 - Alone a lot →
 - Ignored by his father
 - Hated by brothers – elevated by God in front of them.
- Jonathan:
 - Had a father, Saul... who ruined his political life!

1 Samuel 20:30-31

➤ *Mistreated his wife, Jonathan's mother -*

³⁰ Then Saul became angry with Jonathan and shouted, "You son of a perverse and rebellious woman! Don't I know that you are siding with Jesse's son to your own shame and to the disgrace of your mother?" ³¹ Every day Jesse's son lives on earth you and your kingship are not secure. Now send for him and bring him to me—he deserves to die."

Now in spite of all that Jonathan and David had with their baggage/struggles...

- They overcame much, and became great friends!!
 - Encouragers to each other!
 - Look at how it started (*17:57-18:1*)
 - And continued in the tough times ahead.
- Look at

1 Samuel 23:15-18... ¹⁵ One day near Horesh, David received the news that Saul was on the way to Ziph to search for him and kill him. ¹⁶ Jonathan went to find David and **encouraged him to stay strong in his faith in God.** ¹⁷ "Don't be afraid," Jonathan reassured him. "My father will never find you! You are going to be the king of Israel, and I will be next to you, as my father, Saul, is well aware." ¹⁸ So the two of them renewed their solemn pact before the Lord. Then Jonathan returned home, while David stayed at Horesh. [emphasis mine] NLT

What made this friendship? True, close friendship will have...

Let me give you several principles from this passage...

Will have 6 things...

CONCLUSION:

Homework:

- I want you to write down: *what makes a good friendship? Describe a good friendship.*
- Do you agree that close friendships are Biblically commanded, should be happening?
- Do you agree that true close friendships must begin in marriages?
- Weren't friendships God's idea? God's design?
- Are YOU a good friend?