

LEADER TIPS

Sermon Description

After having his life threatened on multiple occasions David is afraid and running for his life. He feels alone with nowhere to turn, so he goes to the one person he feels he can trust, Jonathan. This puts Jonathan in a very tough position, as he must choose between his friend, God's next chosen king for Israel, and his father, the current king. For Jonathan, allegiance to God and his friend will cost him any chance at being future king. Like always, Jonathan proves to be the man that is needed in an hour of need. He shows us what it looks like to be a true friend and he begins to foreshadow the ultimate friend, Jesus.

In a society that craves friendship and community but is starved for examples of what true friendship looks like, we can hold Johnathan and Jesus up as two models of friendship. They allow others in without letting them down. What examples can we take away from these two men in order to be good friends?

DISCUSSION PRIMER

In what ways is it easy for us to model biblical friendship? In what ways does it seem impossible?

SERMON OUTLINE

"YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND IN ME" 1 SAMUEL 20

Big Idea: Jesus was the ultimate friend who let us in without letting us down and through that friendship He saved

Sermon Outline

1. Friendship is more give than take	3. Jesus is the ultimate friend
2. Friendship requires:	a. Vulnerability - Heb 4:15, Phil 2:5-8, Heb 1:3
a. Vulnerability - vv. 1&8	b. Promise Keeping - Mt 28:20
b. Promise Keeping - vv. 13-17	c. Advocacy - 1 John 2:1
c. Advocacy - vv. 27-33	d. Affection - Eph 2:4-5
d. Affection - vv .41-42	e. Sacrifice - Heb 12:2-3
e. Sacrifice - John 15:13	4. Jesus lets you in without letting you down

INTERSECTION: How does the text intersect with our lives?

- Why is it so difficult for us to start with vulnerability?
- Who in your life are you currently advocating for? Who should you be advocating for?
- What is a promise you have made that you have broken and how did it affect your relationship with the other person?
- What steps can you take to be a promise keeper?

REPLICABLE QUESTIONS

Read **1 Samuel 20** and explore together what the passages reveal about:

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| 1) The character and purposes of God? | 4) Our identity in Christ? |
| 2) The fallen human condition? | 5) Our obedience to Christ? |
| 3) The gospel of Jesus Christ? | 6) Our relationship to others |

APPLICATION: "So, what now?"

Have each participant identify a personal take-away in light of this study. Is there . . .

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| • a command to obey? | • a beauty to behold? | • a mission to fulfill? |
| • a promise to claim? | • a truth to believe? | • an example to follow? |
| • a sin to repent of? | • a service to render? | • a person to tell? |