

The Gift of True Friendship

THE PURSUIT OF GOD: THE LIFE OF DAVID · 1 SAMUEL 18:1-4; 20:1-42 · JUNE 22, 2025 · WILL BRANCH

True Friendship Is Marked by Covenant, Not Convenience (1 Samuel 18:1–4)

- Jonathan “loved David as himself” — selfless, committed love.
- He gave David his robe and weapons — surrendering his royal rights.
- Their bond was spiritual — rooted in purpose, not personality.

Challenge: Are your friendships based on covenant loyalty or just mutual benefit? What are you willing to give for a friend?

True Friendship Stands Firm in Crisis (1 Samuel 20:1–34)

- Jonathan risks his life by defending David to Saul.
- Loyalty is proven not when it’s easy, but when it’s dangerous.
- He speaks truth to power — even when it means personal loss.

Challenge: Are you the kind of friend who stays when things get messy — or one who leaves when it costs too much?

True Friendship Trusts God Together (1 Samuel 20:35–42)

- David and Jonathan weep together — friendship includes emotion.
- They entrust each other to God’s hands, not their own control.
- Their relationship is covenantal and God-centered.

Challenge: Are your closest friendships helping you trust God more — or just making you feel comfortable?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What about David and Jonathan’s friendship inspires or challenges you the most?
2. What makes covenant friendship different from typical friendship today?
3. Why do you think Jonathan was willing to give up so much for David?
4. Have you ever had a friend stand by you during a difficult time? How did it impact you?
5. Are you more likely to offer friendship that’s convenient or committed?
6. In your own life, who has helped you trust God more?
7. How does the story of David and Jonathan foreshadow the friendship of Jesus?
8. What would it look like for you to “be a Jonathan” to someone in your life right now?
9. Is there a friendship you need to deepen, mend, or let go of?
10. How can you intentionally invite God into your friendships this week?