

Message Summary

Many of us are connected to people but still feel alone. David and Jonathan show that godly friendship sees the real you, pays the price through honesty and sacrifice, and strengthens your faith. Friendship costs something, but isolation costs far more.

Key Scriptures

1 Samuel 18:1, 3–4 (NIV)

Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself. And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as 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 23:16 (NIV)

And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God.

John 15:13 (NIV)

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

Start Talking

Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Who was one of your closest friends growing up, and what made that friendship meaningful?
- Watch this week's Sermon Refresh: [Here](#) (Available Monday's)

Start Thinking

Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Please read the Key Scriptures on the left.
- Based on these passages, what qualities do you see in a good friend?

Start Sharing

Choose a question(s) to create openness.

- A real friend celebrates your calling instead of feeling threatened by it. What happens inside you when someone close to you succeeds?
- Friendship requires scheduled, sacrificed time. What most often keeps you from making meaningful friendship a priority?
- Who has permission to tell you the truth, even when it is difficult for you to hear? What makes receiving that kind of honesty hard?
- Jonathan helped David find strength in God. Who has helped point you back to God during a difficult season?
- Are your closest relationships currently drawing you closer to Jesus, leaving you unchanged, or pulling you away from Him?
- **Think on:** Instead of asking, "Who will be a good friend to me?" who might God be inviting you to become a better friend to?

Start Praying

Jesus, thank You for Your friendship. Help us become faithful friends who encourage, challenge, and point others toward You. Amen.

Start Doing

This week, identify one relationship in which you can intentionally become a better friend.

- **See:** Encourage something meaningful you see God doing in that person.
- **Pay:** Schedule time together or have an honest conversation you have been avoiding.
- **Foster:** Ask how you can pray for them, then pray together before the conversation ends.