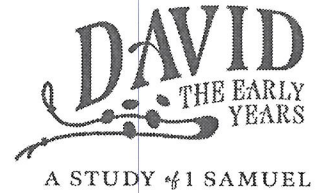


1 SAMUEL 20

March 2-3, 2022



1. What do you think are important qualities for a good friendship?
2. Read all of chapter 20 in 1 Samuel. What one verse in this chapter stands out to **you** personally? Explain why.
3. Read 1 Samuel 20:1-4. What is David's concern?

As Jonathan replies in verse 2, on what does he base his response to David's concern?

Review 1 Samuel 19:9-11. What does David know that Jonathan may not know?

What phrase or words in 1 Samuel 20:3 tell us this is a very serious concern to David?

List everything you learn about Jonathan from his response in 1 Samuel 20:4.

4. Read 1 Samuel 20:5-9. What are the major steps in David's plan to determine Saul's intentions?

What reason might David have for hiding in the field rather than going to his home in Bethlehem?

5. Read 1 Samuel 18:3-4 along with 1 Samuel 20:8. David mentions the covenant of loyal friendship between Jonathan and David. Who else is part of this covenant?

What have you read so far in 20:1-9 which shows Jonathan's strong commitment to their covenant friendship?

Think of your friendships where God is central to the friendship. Contrast those friendships with past or present friendships where God has not been central.

6. Read 1 Samuel 20:10-17. Jonathan's words indicate his belief God has chosen David to be Israel's next king. What is Jonathan's main concern for David according to verse 13?

Jonathan and David recommit their loyal friendship in verses 14-17. What does Jonathan add in verse 15?

7. Read 1 Samuel 20:18-23. Jonathan agrees to report to David the attitude of Saul toward David. What are the major details of Jonathan's plan?

8. Read 1 Samuel 20:24-31. The New Moon feast was celebrated each month with special sacrifices and the blowing of trumpets. Sometimes the feast lasted two nights. Which night does Saul ask Jonathan about David's absence?

Describe Saul's words and actions in response to Jonathan's reply.

Reread verse 31. What has Saul forgotten about his kingdom? See 1 Samuel 15:26-28.

9. Read 1 Samuel 20:32-34. Although Saul wants Jonathan as future king, what appears to be Jonathan's attitude concerning David becoming king instead of himself? Review 20:14-16.

10. Reread 1 Samuel 20:32-34. Besides Saul's words, what action convinces Jonathan of Saul's desire to kill David?

What does Jonathan's response in these verses tell you about Jonathan's character?

11. Read 1 Samuel 20:35-42. Jonathan relays the sad news to David using bow and arrows. In verse 38 as Jonathan shouts to the young boy, what other meaning could Jonathan's words convey to David?

Although David and Jonathan have a deep, mutual friendship, what does David's action in verse 41 tell you about David?

David and Jonathan realize David must now be on the run from Saul. How does Jonathan encourage David in this extremely sad and difficult situation?

What are some ways a godly friend has encouraged you in times of distress or difficulty?

12. Read the following verses on friendship: Proverbs 13:20, 17:17, 18:24, 22:11, 27:6. Pick one verse and explain how you see Jonathan and David's friendship as an example of this verse.

13. After studying 1 Samuel 20, what are some lessons you will incorporate in your friendships?

14. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

LOYAL, FAITHFUL FRIENDS

1 Samuel 20

The Problem 20:1-4

- David is convinced Saul wants to kill him.
- Jonathan refutes David's concern using faulty logic.
- When David explains, Jonathan listens, understands, and is willing to help in any way.

As faithful friends, _____ well to each other and gain understanding.

The Plan 20:5-23

- David will not attend the New Moon feast at Saul's table.
- Saul's reaction to David's absence will indicate Saul's true intentions concerning David.
- Unfortunately, David's plan requires Jonathan to lie to Saul.
- Jonathan vows to carry out the plan. Jonathan and David renew their vow of loyal friendship.

As godly friends, _____ God's best for each other.

The Plan Unfolds 20:24-34

- As David hides, Jonathan attends the feast and answers Saul's questions.
- From the overflow of Saul's heart, he speaks vile, hostile words.
- As Jonathan defends David, Saul tries to kill Jonathan with a spear.
- Jonathan is convinced and grieved over Saul's hatred for David, God's anointed.

As loyal friends, _____ unselfishly to the friendship without counting the cost.

Reporting the Outcome 20:35-42

- Jonathan shoots arrows and shouts the prearranged words to give David the sad news.
- As the young boy gathers arrows and returns to town, David humbly shows respect to Jonathan.
- Knowing David must now run from Saul, they hug farewell with great emotion and sadness.
- Jonathan encourages David with God's peace and His presence in their covenant friendship.

As loving friends, _____ one another with God's attributes.

*Remember, Jesus is our perfect friend.
He listens well, will never leave us, gives us peace and sacrificed His life for us.
Jesus is our loyal, faithful friend.*

David – The Early Years – 1 Samuel 20

March 2-3, 2022

PROVERBS 18:13 If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame.

PROVERBS 12:22 Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

PROVERBS 13:20 Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

LUKE 6:45 “The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.”

1 Samuel 15:26 And Samuel said to Saul, “I will not return with you. For you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel.”

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

1 SAMUEL 23:16-17 And Jonathan, Saul’s son, rose and went to David at Horesh, and strengthened his hand in God. And he said to him, “Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you. Saul my father also knows this.”

1 PETER 3:12a “For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer.”

MATTHEW 28:20b “And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

JOHN 14:27 “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

JOHN 15:13 “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.”

