

Great Differences: Lessons from David & Solomon

This week – The friendship between David and Jonathan pictures Christ’s friendship with us.

**The Lord Jesus said:**  
**“Greater love hath no man than this**  
**that a man lay down his life for his friends.**  
**Ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command**  
**you.” John 15v13,14.**

**Bible Readings for this week:**

*(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)*

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	1 Samuel 18v1-16 (David and Jonathan’s friendship)	
Monday	1 Samuel 19v1-18 (David’s life in danger from Saul)	
Tuesday	1 Samuel 20v1-17 (David is in great danger)	
Wednesday	1 Samuel 20v18-42 (Jonathan risks his life to warn David)	
Thursday	John 3v1-21 (For God so loved the world....)	
Friday	John 15v1-14 (Sacrificial love is the greatest love)	
Saturday	John 15v15-27 (Love one another!)	

**Important Thought for us Today:** *What is filial love? Filial means having the relationship of a child to a parent - a duty of respect, love, and affection. The ability to love comes from God. **God is Love**; it is His very essence (being). The greatest demonstration of His love to us is the Lord Jesus Christ dying to save sinners, (John 3v16). In return, it is our duty to love Him because He first loved us, (1 John 4v19). Our love must be sincere, deep, constant, and consistent, as from a child unto our Father. But we cannot love God whilst our sins are unforgiven. Our first act of love to God is to come in repentance and faith, to hate our sin, and to fully trust the Saviour’s death on the cross which removes the guilt of all our sin.*

**Hymn 15. Based on Psalm 15 - David’s sincere love for his LORD and for all believers.**

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| <p>1. LORD Jesus, near to Thee I’d be<br/>                 In fellowship and love,<br/>                 A faithful servant close to Thee,<br/>                 An heir of things above.</p> <p>3. O guide my loyalties, that I<br/>                 Shall love the friends of God,<br/>                 And form no servile, hurtful tie<br/>                 With haters of the Word.</p> | <p>2. O make me kindly and sincere,<br/>                 No evil in my mouth,<br/>                 That none may hurtful slanders hear,<br/>                 But only grace and truth.</p> <p>4. In all my paths may I disown<br/>                 Self-interest, love of gain;<br/>                 May all I do for Thee be done<br/>                 Not heeding loss or gain.</p> |
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EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible

**The Difference in Friendship - David and Jonathan.**

**Jonathan’s Friendship with David is an Example of God’s Love for Us.**

• **Background to Today’s Lesson.**

- Jonathan was King Saul’s son, next in line to be King of Israel, but he fully accepted that David had been chosen by God to be King when his father died.
- Jonathan and David were very close friends, showing a gracious nature.

• **What Makes a True Friend? Someone Who: -**

- Really likes you, always ready to help, and are kind and generous to you.
- You can consistently trust them; they ‘stick up’ for you no matter what.

**The Lord Jesus fulfils this and more! He offers us His Friendship.**

• **The Friendship of David and Jonathan: -**

- **An Unlikely Friendship** – Naturally, they should have been fierce enemies.
  - Yet, they made a ‘vow’ of friendship. A ‘bond’ of promise. (1 Samuel 18v3)

**The Holy King of Heaven, the Lord Jesus, promises to be ‘the friend of sinners!’**

**A Costly Friendship** – Jonathan made a great sacrifice – accepting God’s will.

- Jonathan even helped David by protecting him from his father’s anger.

**The Lord Jesus humbly left the courts of Heaven to make us Children of God.**

- **No Greater Friendship** – Jonathan put his own life at risk. (1 Samuel 20, 24-33)
  - Jonathan placed himself in great danger, showing that he loved David more than he loved himself. A true demonstration of genuine, sacrificial love.

**The Lord Jesus, out of love, gave His life as a sacrifice for us at Calvary.**

- **A Lasting Friendship** – Jonathan died; King David grieved. (2 Samuel 1v17-26)
  - David lovingly cared for Jonathan’s disabled son, Mephibosheth. (2 Samuel 9)

**The Lord Jesus, as our Saviour, has promised ‘to never leave us nor forsake us.’**

- **A Pattern Friendship** – The ‘glue’ that kept Jonathan and David friends for life was their common love for, and obedience to, the LORD.
- It is our love of the Lord Jesus and our concern for His glory and honour that:
  - Keeps a Christian loyal to his Saviour no matter what is faced in their lives.
  - Keeps a Christian ‘glued’ to other believers and causes them to join a faithful church to worship, fellowship and serve by reaching out to the unsaved.
- **Do We Have Such a Friendship with the Lord and Fellow Believers?**
  - Is the Lord so special that we cannot offend Him or use His name as a swear word?
  - Are God’s house and other believers’ company where we most want to be?
  - Do we appreciate what He did for us by dying for us that we want to tell others of His wonderful love and friendship to us?

**The Lord Jesus commands believers, “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.” John 13 v34,35.**