



I Will Do For You

22nd in the “God’s King” Series

1 Samuel 20

November 27, 2022

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage, God reveals in greater depth the nature of true friendship in the bond between Jonathan and David.

The Text: 1 Samuel 20 (excerpts)

¹ Then David fled from Naioth in Ramah and came and said before Jonathan, “What have I done? What is my guilt? And what is my sin before your father, that he seeks my life?” / ² And he said to him, “Far from it! You shall not die. Behold, my father does nothing either great or small without disclosing it to me. And why should my father hide this from me? It is not so.” / ⁴ Then Jonathan said to David, “Whatever you say, I will do for you.” / ¹² And Jonathan said to David, “The Lord, the God of Israel, be witness! When I have sounded out my father, about this time tomorrow, or the third day, behold, if he is well disposed toward David, shall I not then send and disclose it to you? ¹³ But should it please my father to do you harm, the Lord do so to Jonathan and more also if I do not disclose it to you and send you away, that you may go in safety. May the Lord be with you, as he has been with my father. ¹⁴ If I am still alive, show me the steadfast love of the Lord, that I may not die; ¹⁵ and do not cut off your steadfast love from my house forever, when the Lord cuts off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth.” ¹⁶ And Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, “May the Lord take vengeance on David’s enemies.” ¹⁷ And Jonathan made David swear again by his love for him, for he loved him as he loved his own soul. / ³⁰ Then Saul’s anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said to him, “You son of a perverse, rebellious woman, do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own shame, and to the shame of your mother’s nakedness? / ³³ But Saul hurled his spear at him to strike him. So Jonathan knew that his father was determined to put David to death. / ⁴¹ And as soon as the boy had gone, David rose from beside the stone heap, fell on his face to the ground, and bowed thrice. And they kissed one another and wept with one another, David weeping the most. ⁴² Then Jonathan said to David, “Go in peace, because we have sworn both of us in the name of the Lord, saying, ‘The Lord shall be between me and you, and between my offspring and your offspring, forever.’” And he rose and departed, and Jonathan went into the city.

1) In the developing story of the Bible, this chapter of 1 Samuel reveals the ways God cares for Saul and his descendants through David.

2) This chapter articulates the unique relationship between Jonathan and David in a way that exhorts us to pursue deep friendship.

- a) A friend is someone with whom you can share your deep fears and concerns (v. 1).
- b) A friend is someone who encourages you (v. 2).
- c) A friend is someone who participates with you in your burdens (vv. 3-10).
- d) A true friendship is like a covenant in which both parties commit themselves to the other (vv. 11-17).
- e) A friend is someone who makes sacrifices for you (vv. 18-31).
- f) A friend is someone who has your best interests in mind (vv. 32-34).
- g) A friend is someone who becomes to you a brother or a sister (vv. 35-42).

Response

Lord, provide for us and from us the kind of friendship your Word puts on display for us to see and emulate.

Sunday Text Questions

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- 1) Starter Question: Have you ever seen or experienced a friendship like the one between Jonathan and David?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Why might it be significant that God spends two entire chapters (chapter 18 and now chapter 20) describing in detail the deep friendship between Jonathan and David?
- 4) Why is friendship important to God or essential to the nature and life of the church?
- 5) If “a friend is someone who encourages you,” how can you practice the gracious habit of encouragement in your current relationships?
- 6) What does it look like have the kind of friend “who participates with you in your burdens?”
- 7) How is “true friendship like a covenant in which both parties commit themselves to the other?”
- 8) How might the category of “sibling” be the best image or definition of a true friend?
- 9) What are some things you can do to become a Jonathan-like friend to someone?
- 10) What are some things you might do to establish a deep friendship like Jonathan and David with another person?

Further study this week: Passages that teach Christians to practice encouragement: 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (Mon); 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (Tues); Hebrews 10:24-25 (Wed); Romans 1:11-12 (Thurs); Romans 15:5 (Fri).