

Life of David

A Man After God's Own Heart

Friendship

- Introduction
 - Jonathan and David formed a friendship based upon their mutual love of the Lord.
 - The world has its own ideas about what friendship entails, but the Bible teaches us about true friendship with God and other people.
 - This brief study will give us a clearer picture of what spiritual-based friendship should be.
- Development
 - Friendship with God
 - ✦ Abraham was called a friend of God [Jas 2:23; 2 Chr 20:7; Isa 41:8].
 - ✦ The Lord spoke to Moses as a friend [Ex 33:11].
 - ✦ Job's entire household was characterized by friendship with God [Job 29:4].
 - Biblical Examples of Friendship
 - ✦ Job and his three associates [Job 2:11].
 - ✦ Judah and Hirah the Adullamite [Gen 38:12].
 - ✦ Ruth and Naomi [Ruth 1:15-18].
 - ✦ David and Jonathan [1 Sam 18:1-4; 20:41-42].
 - ✦ David and Hushai [2 Sam 15:37; 16:16-17].
 - ✦ David and Hiram [1 Kings 5:1].
 - ✦ Daniel and the three young men [Dan 2:13].
 - ✦ Jesus Christ was the friend of tax collectors and sinners [Matt 11:19].
 - ✦ Lazarus was Jesus' friend [John 11:11].
 - ✦ Jesus considered His disciples to be His true friends [John 15:14-15].
 - ✦ Jesus even referred to His betrayer as "Friend" [Matt 26:50].
 - Benefits of Friendship
 - ✦ Comfort [Job 2:11].
 - ✦ Love [Pr 17:17; Jn 15:13].
 - ✦ Loyalty [Pr 18:24; 27:6, 10].
 - ✦ Good Advice [Pr 27:9].
 - ✦ Care [Ecc 4:9-10; Acts 24:23; 27:3].
 - ✦ Warnings [Acts 19:31].

- Perils of Friendship
 - ✦ Being Led Astray [Deut 13:6-8].
 - ✦ Desertion [Psalm 38:11].
 - ✦ Overconfidence [Micah 7:5].
 - ✦ Betrayal [Psalm 41:9; Jer 20:10].
 - ✦ Separation Through Slander [Pr 16:28].
 - ✦ Worldliness [Jas 4:4].
- Conclusions
 - God created us with the capacity for relationships with Him and other people.
 - The Fall severed our relationship with God and damaged our capacity for friendship with others.
 - When we are born again we can once again be “friends” of God and have a restored capacity for friendships based upon integrity and love.
 - The Bible presents examples of wonderful friendships that are based on integrity and love.
 - The Bible also presents friendships that are unhealthy and harmful to the believer.
 - Healthy friendships centered in Christ’s love are a tremendous blessing and can be a source of spiritual strengthening for both parties.
 - When the people involved in a friendship move away from God, the friendship can become perilous for one or both parties.
 - Unbelievers can form friendships that are a temporal benefit, but deep bonds of friendship that have eternal meaning are entered into only by believers that have a renewed capacity for personal relationships through the Holy Spirit.