

CHURCH SCHOOL LESSON  
OCTOBER 4, 2020  
WHAT MAKES A FRIEND?

This week we are going to learn about the selfless friendship between David and Jonathon. What is your definition of friendship?

What qualities do you look for in a friend?

What do you want your friends to want for you?

What do you want most for your friends?

In the past, what sort of things have hurt your friendships?

What things have made your friendships better?

If you could pick our just one quality for your friends to have, what would it be?

Our Bible story this week is about two young men who lived about 1,000 years before Jesus was born. Their names were David and Jonathan. Jonathan was the son of a king. David was God's choice to become a future king. Let's find out what the two men valued most in a friend.

King Saul pursued David from place to place. David fled the city of Naioth, where Saul had come to find him, and met his friend Jonathan, who was Saul's son. David asked Jonathan why Jonathan's father was trying to kill him.

Read 1 Samuel 20:2-11.

Why was it so important for David to choose his friends carefully?

Jonathan could have been the next king. Why do you think he helped David?

Read 1 Samuel 20:12-13, and 16-17 and 32-33.

What makes David and Jonathan's friendship a good model for friends?

Jonathan worked out a signal by shooting arrows into a field to let David know if he would be in danger from Saul. When King Saul noticed that David was missing from his table on the second day of the New Moon festival, he asked Jonathan where David was. King Saul became angry when Jonathan told his father that David had been called away to his family. King Saul accused Jonathan of siding with David and said that David must be put to death. King Saul told Jonathan that as long as David lived Jonathan would not be the next king. Jonathan did not care. Jonathan was so upset that he did not eat that day. The next day he went out to the field to meet David. Using the signal they had worked out, he warned David of what his father intended to do.

What do you think was the hardest thing Jonathan had to do as David's friend?

In the story, how did Jonathan show that he wanted God's best for David?

What did wanting God's best for David cost Jonathan?

Who would you rather be David or Jonathan? Why?

Our Bible story tells how David and Jonathan wanted God's best for each other and helped each other. We are going to make a photo frame for your room to remind you of your friends who want God's best for you. First you will need an old clear plastic CD case, some colored paper and photos of your friends. If you don't have a CD case, let me know and I can get one to you.

Remove any paper labels from your CD case and carefully remove the snap-in CD panel, if there is one in your case. You may need your parent's help with this.

Cut two squares 4 3/4 inches on each side out of colored paper or construction paper. You can decorate your paper if you want. Find two photos of your friends. If you need to take a picture, make sure you ask them first. Cut the photos to fit on the squares then glue them in place.

Slide the paper into the slots on the CD case. Add small pieces of tape to hold them in place. You can draw or write on the CD case with dry erase marked if you want. You can erase it and write something different any time you want.

Stand the frame on your desk or dresser.

Friendships can be challenging. If you could advertise for the perfect friend, what would you look for? Here are some qualities you might look for. Check the ones that are important to you and write your own advertisement for a best friend.

SMART	GOOD ATHLETE	CARING
LIES FOR ME SO I WON'T GET IN TROUBLE	HAS GREAT STUFF	GOOD LOOKING
LET'S ME COPY HOMEWORK	RICH	LOYAL
TRUTHFUL	DOESN'T TALK ABOUT ME BEHIND MY BACK	POPULAR
UNSELFISH	STICKS AROUND WHEN NOBODY ELSE CARES	LOVES JESUS
FOLLOWER	TRIES TO HELP ME BECOME A BETTER PERSON	

If I was writing an advertisement it would be like this: WANTED a person to be my best friend. Person should be smart and unselfish, loves Jesus and is loyal. If you have these qualities and would like to be my best friend, call me.

What would your advertisement be like? Are there other qualities other than those listed that you value in a friend?

We learned from the story of David and Jonathan that friends want God's best for each other. God showed us through David and Jonathan a great example of true friendship. They were unselfish, they looked out for each other and they were committed to helping find God's best for each other. Can you think of some problems our friends might experience? How can we look out for them and maybe help them out?

Let's close with a prayer. Thank you God for our friends. Help us to be good friends to others and to want God's best for all our friends. Guide us in the best way to help our friends. In Jesus name. Amen