

Built Different

Week 1

Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment.

[Proverbs 18:1]

After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan become one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself...And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt.

[1 Samuel 18:1-4]

1. Be Open To Friendship

"Over the past three decades, the number of close friends that Americans have has plummeted...it seems to be true for every age group, gender, for every income level, for people in metro and non-metro areas, for white and non-white, living with a spouse or partner, not living with a spouse or partner. Everyone seems to be spending more time alone."

[*The Survey Center of American Life*, Dan Cox]

46% of Americans say they feel alone.

43% say the relationships they have are not meaningful.

Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Let not the king do wrong to his servant David; he has not wronged you, and what he has done has benefited you greatly. He took his life in his hands when he killed the Philistine. The Lord won a great victory for all Israel, and you saw it and were glad. When then would you do wrong to an innocent man like David by killing him for no reason?"

[1 Samuel 19:4-5]

2. Be Willing To Comfort And Confront

Wounds from a friend can be trusted.

[Proverbs 27:6]

"As long as the son of Jesse lives on this earth, neither you nor your kingdom will be established."

[1 Samuel 20:31]

3. Be Selfless

"The world is full of sorrow because it is full of sin. It is a dark place. It is a lonely place. It is a disappointing place. The brightest sunbeam in it is a friend. Friendship halves our sorrows and doubles our joys."

[J. C. Royle]

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

[Proverbs 17:17]

And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God.

[1 Samuel 23:16]

4. Be Growing Spiritually

"Don't be afraid," David said to him, "for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table." Mephibosheth bowed down and said, "What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?"

[2 Samuel 9:7-8]

5. Remember, Ultimate Friendship Is In Jesus

When you're seated at the table, the position covers up your condition.