



Community

Discussion Guide

August 26, 2018

1 Samuel 18:1-4, 20:1-42

Questions for Study

** Before you begin, please read 1 Samuel 18:1-4, 20:1-42 as a group.

1. Who would you describe as a good friend you have had or currently have? What about this person makes them a good friend?
2. Why are friendships important? How have friendships made a positive difference in your life?
3. Are there aspects of our culture that make sustaining deep, true friendship difficult? Explain.
4. From the beginning of the Bible to the end, we learn that God created us for relationship – relationship with Himself and relationship with others. As a group, work to identify 3-4 biblical examples or specific passages that underline the importance of relationships. (Be sure and share HOW the example or passage underlines the importance of relationships.)
5. Look back at what you read about David and Jonathan's friendship in 1 Samuel 18 and 20. What stands out to you about their friendship? List at least 3-5 observations.
6. Friendship is often "messy" for any number of reasons. (Just think about how "messy" David and Jonathan's friendship was, because of King Saul's jealousy and anger.) Why is it important to stay committed to friendship and community, even when it's messy or awkward?
7. How can you BE a friend to someone you know this week (be specific in your answer!), and take the first steps to show the commitment and care we know are important to friendship?
8. How can Community Groups be a place where you foster the sort of friendship we read about in the Bible – the sort of friendship with others we were created for?
9. Read John 15:12-15. What does it mean to have Jesus as our friend? How can this truth – that Jesus can be our friend – make a difference in your life this week?
10. Challenge: Memorize Proverbs 27:17: "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."