



“MEANINGFUL FRIENDSHIPS”

Series: “LIFE-GIVING RELATIONSHIPS”, Part 2 of 6

Sunday, April 28, 2024, at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Text: 1 Samuel 18-20

Big Idea: In a meaningful friendship, each brings out the best in the other even at great personal cost.

“The determining factor in whether wives feel satisfied with sex, romance, and passion in their marriage is, by 70 percent, the quality of the couple’s friendship. For men, the determining factor is, by the same 70 percent, the quality of the couple’s friendship. So men and women come from the same planet after all Friendship fuels the flames of romance because it offers the best protection against feeling adversarial toward your spouse.”¹

I. Great friends sacrifice for each other.

1 Samuel 18:4, “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.”

II. Great friends celebrate your victories and mourn your losses.

Romans 12:15, “Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.”

1 Samuel 18:5, “Whatever Saul sent him to do, David did it so successfully that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the people, and Saul’s officers as well.”

Job 5:2, “Resentment kills a fool, and envy slays the simple.”

III. Great friends stick with you through hard times.

1 Samuel 19:1-2, “Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David. But Jonathan was very fond of David and warned him, “My father Saul is looking for a chance to kill you. Be on your guard tomorrow morning; go into hiding and stay there.”

¹ John M. Gottman, *The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work*. (Three Rivers, Michigan: Three Rivers Press, 2000), 17, 20.

I Samuel 19:4-5, "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. Why then would you do wrong to an innocent man like David by killing him for no reason?'"

I Samuel 19:6-7, "Saul listened to Jonathan and took this oath: "As surely as the LORD lives, David will not be put to death." So Jonathan called David and told him the whole conversation. He brought him to Saul, and David was with Saul as before."

Proverbs 17:17, "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."