

1 Samuel 20

"A Friend Who Sticks Closer than a Brother"

Review and Introduction:

(1 Samuel 17:15, 17, 36, 50; 18:13)

[#1] David had put himself squarely under **GOD'S** authority!

(1 Corinthians 10:31)

[#2] Might I say that for David—and undoubtedly for each and every one of us—it is impossible to wait on the Lord unless we **CHOOSE** to give authority to God in just this manner!

(1 John 1:9)

[#3] My second challenge to is this...the trials and struggles of life demand that you and I have at least one **"JONATHAN-RELATIONSHIP"** among our friends!

(1 Samuel 18:1; Proverbs 18:24 NIV; Ecclesiastes 4:12 NLT; Romans 5:3-4; John 10:10a)

[#4] God's plans will not be thwarted ... and the same is true for you and me. God has a plan and nothing can cause that plan to come undone. As long as you're **WALKING** with Him, nothing will derail you.

(1 Samuel 13:11, 14; 15:23; 18:28-29; 19:1; 23:17; Acts 20:36-38)

[#5] May **we** be a Jonathan—perhaps having the **ability** to play first chair, but providing **HARMONY** in second chair—in a supporting role to others.

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Food for Thought
For the week of August 14, 2022
(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

Life Group Signups have begun! Consider joining a Life Group to grow closer to Jesus and build relationships with others!

****Since Life Groups are on break, feel free to use the following study questions with your personal devotions!****

1) David has been anointed king; but he is waiting for the Lord to crown him king. Think of a time you waited on the Lord for an answer. Write down 2 Scriptures that helped you through this time.

2) David and Jonathan depended on each other and supported each other through terrible times in David's life. Write down how a friend has helped you when you struggled in the past.

3) David continued to submit to God's authority in the face of adversity. What do the following verses tell you about submitting to authority?

Philippians 2:5-8

⁵Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled

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1 Peter 5:5

⁵Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for
“God resists the proud,
But gives grace to the humble.”

4) Instead of waiting to seek the Lord’s will about King Saul’s reaction at the feast, David and Jonathan tried to “scheme” their way out of the problem.

One Bible scholar writes:

“Normally his actions would have been wrong, but in these circumstances they were justifiable. David had good reason to believe that Saul intended to kill him, though he had done nothing worthy of death David had the right to protect himself. His plan prevented the king from committing a crime, and preserved an innocent human life.”

Do you agree or disagree? Explain.

5) Spend some time in prayer. Be sure to praise God for what He’s already done, and for Who He is. Himself and became obedient to the *point of* death, even the death of the cross.

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