

“What I Really Need is Friendship”

Introduction: “Friend” is the warmest word in the English language. If you can develop good relationships with others - you will be successful!

⁵⁵“As King Saul watched David going out to meet the Philistine, he said to Abner, commander of the army, “Abner, whose son is that young man?” Abner replied, “As surely as you live, O king, I don’t know.” ⁵⁶The king said, “Find out whose son this young man is.” ⁵⁷As soon as David returned from killing the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul, with David still holding the Philistine’s head. ⁵⁸“Whose son are you, young man?” Saul asked him. David said, “I am the son of your servant Jesse of Bethlehem.” - 1 Samuel 17:55-58

¹After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself. ²From that day Saul kept David with him and did not let him return to his father’s house. ³And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. ⁴Jonathan 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. ⁵Whatever 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.” - 1 Samuel 18:1-5

The Environment of a Friendship

What is needed for a Friendship to develop?

1. Respect

¹After David had finished talking with Saul, **Jonathan became one** in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself.” - 1 Samuel 18:1

2. Self-Image

¹After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and **he loved him as himself.**” - 1 Samuel 18:1

³“And Jonathan made a covenant with David because **he loved him as himself.**” - 1 Samuel 18:3

To be a good friend you need a healthy self-image.

No one can give more love than he has.

3. Initiative

¹“**Jonathan became one** in spirit with David.”

³“And **Jonathan made a covenant** with David.”

⁴“**Jonathan took off** the robe he was wearing and gave it to David.”

The Expressions of a Friendship

1. “Love is more than words.” (v. 3,4)

³“And Jonathan **made a covenant** with David because he loved him as himself.” - 1 Samuel 18:3

2. “You’re important.” (v. 4)

⁴“Jonathan **took off the robe** he was wearing and **gave it to David.**” - 1 Sam. 18:4

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3. “I will make sacrifices for you.”

⁴“Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and **gave it to David.**” - 1 Sam. 18:4

4. “I believe in you!”

⁴“Jonathan (gave David) his sword, his bow and his belt.” - 1 Samuel 18:4

5. “I’m willing to become vulnerable.”

⁴“Jonathan (gave David) his **sword, his bow and his belt.**” - 1 Samuel 18:4

When Jonathan gave up his ...

- Sword — He gave up his defense.
- Bow — He gave up his offense.
- Belt — He gave us a picture of total trust!

The Effectiveness of a Friendship

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Who is it that ...

- Wants to initiate a friendship with me?
- Demonstrates His love by more than words?
- Feels that I am important?
- Is willing to give up everything for me?
- Believes in me?

My friend, Jesus!

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