

# **“A Study of Friendship”**

## **Prov. 18:24**

### Introduction

- I. There is great value in having true friends.
- II. The Bible has much to say about friendship, and many examples.
- III. Let us study the friendship of David and Jonathan, and by so doing, let us learn how to be a better friend.

### Discussion

- I. Friends should be honest with one another (1 Sam. 20:1-3).
  - A. Saul, Jonathan's father, wished for David to be dead.
  - B. David did not sacrifice honesty when speaking to Jonathan.
  - C. True friends should be able to discuss things openly.
    1. Advice should be welcome (Prov. 27:9).
    2. Trust should exist between friends (Prov. 16:28; 17:9).
    3. Honesty can make the friendship stronger (Prov. 27:17).
  - D. Friendship thrives in honesty, but languishes by empty words, empty tokens, and love of money (Prov. 27:14; 19:4, 6; 14:20-21).
- II. Friends should help one another (1 Sam. 20:4-7).
  - A. David and Jonathan wanted to aid each other.
  - B. Like plants, for friendship to grow, there must be care for such.
  - C. True friends will say what needs to be said (Prov. 27:6; Psm. 141:5).
  - D. Some friendships get so close that the relationship is closer than some familial ties (Prov. 18:24; 17:17; 27:10).
- III. Friends should demonstrate commitment and loyalty (1 Sam. 20:14-17, 30-34, 42).
  - A. A covenant was made between the David and Jonathan.
  - B. Their friendship stayed true until death.
  - C. True friends endure through the good and bad times (Prov. 17:17; 27:10).
  - D. Jonathan stayed a faithful friend, even though that put him at variance with his father, Saul (1 Sam. 23:15-18).
- IV. Friends love for one another should be unfeigned (1 Sam. 20:41).
  - A. The demonstration of emotions was real between David and Jonathan.
  - B. Once Jonathan died, David showed true sorrow (2 Sam. 1:24-27).
  - C. It is not wrong to show our feelings to our friends.

### Conclusion

- I. Friendship is a valuable thing.
- II. By studying the friendship between David and Jonathan, perhaps we will learn to be a better friend to others.