

*When finished with activities, return all necessary items to bag and place in the hallway for pick-up.*

Program A-1

## Jonathan and David: Best Friends

1 Samuel 18:1-4, 19:1-7, 20:1-42

Samuel and Kings Series: Lesson #9

Bible Verse: A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17

Past verses: The LORD is my strength. Psalm 28:7

Help one another. Gal. 5:13

The LORD looks at the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7

Bible Story for children:

Focus on: Friends love one another and are kind to one another.

Prop ideas: Something special you received from a friend

Coat, belt, bow and arrow (No swords, please)

Present wrapped in gift-wrap

### SAMPLE STORY

After David killed Goliath, Saul kept David with him and did not let him return to his father's house to tend to the sheep. King Saul had a son named Jonathan. Jonathan became friends with David. The Bible tells us that Jonathan became one in spirit with David and that he loved him as himself. Jonathan made a covenant (promise) with David to always love him. He then took off his robe and gave it to David along with his tunic, his belt, his bow and even his sword! Jonathan loved David so much that he was willing to give him his possessions.

Whatever King Saul sent David to do, he did it successfully. He gave David a high rank in the army because he was so successful. God was with David and gave him victory over the enemies. When the men returned home from fighting, women would come out singing and dancing with joyful songs and tambourines and lutes. They cheered King Saul. This made him happy; but they cheered David even more...ten times more. King Saul was jealous of David. He thought that the people loved David more than him. Saul got so jealous that he wanted to hurt David. David had done nothing wrong. He was a good and faithful servant to the King. But the King wanted to kill David.

Now, Jonathan, the king's son, was confused and worried. He loved David and could not understand why his father wanted to hurt David. Jonathan told David to hide in a field one evening. Jonathan would find out if his father really meant to hurt David or not. Jonathan and a young boy would go to the field the next day to shoot arrows. If it were safe for David to stay,

Jonathan would tell the boy “Look, the arrows are on this side.” If it were not safe, then Jonathan would say, “Look, the arrows are beyond you.”

Jonathan discovered that his father really did hate David and wanted to kill him. Jonathan was so sad. He knew that his best friend would have to run away and that they could not be together anymore. Jonathan went to the field and shot arrows far away. He told the young boy with him, “The arrow is beyond you. Hurry, go quickly. Don’t stop.” Jonathan gave his weapons to the boy and said, “Take these back to town.”

After the boy had left, David came out of hiding to tell his friend good-bye. They kissed each other and they cried. Jonathan told David “Go in peace. We made a promise before God to be friends forever.” Jonathan went back to town and David left. Jonathan risked his life telling David that the King wanted to kill him. But Jonathan loved David so much that he was willing to do it.

FYI

Second Session Classes will be:

Playing Laughing Game/Sticky Popcorn Game  
Color/Cut/Paste “David Finds a Friend”  
Pretend Play / Dress-Up & Sharing

## FRIENDS’ HANDS MURAL/WRAPPING PAPER COLLAGE

Materials: Bulletin Board Paper  
Wrapping paper scraps (Either cut or torn into small pieces)  
Paintbrushes  
Crayons (In room)  
Glue (In room)  
Plastic cups (In room)

Do: Either place paper on table, floor or hang on a wall. Ask friends to put their hands next to each other. Trace around them. Tell them that they may have many friends and can do this more than once. Be sure to include everyone. You can trace your own hand next to someone’s as well.

Decorate the rest of the paper with wrapping paper. Pour some glue into plastic cups. Demonstrate how to paint some glue onto the paper, then press some wrapping paper pieces over the glue. (If they prefer, they can put the glue onto the pieces instead). Show how to make simple designs with the paper. (Flower, boat or star)

Talk about: Friends enjoy doing things together. Friends sometimes give each other gifts. Most of all, friends love each other. How can you show someone you love them?

## COLORING PAGE

### Jonathan Helps David

Materials: Coloring Page  
Crayons/Markers (In room)

Do: Let each child color a picture of Jonathan and David.

Talk about: Jonathan's father, King Saul, did not like David anymore. He was jealous. He wanted to hurt David. But Jonathan loved David. He even helped David get away from the king.

## MATCHING GAME

Materials: Matching Card Game

Do: Turn the cards face down in rows. (Do not try too many cards at first. 10 pairs are enough to begin with. As they get better, add more pairs). Let the children take turns making matches. They can even work in pairs, as friends.

Talk about: Taking turns and helping one another. Friends help each other and are happy when they are happy.