

A Friend Like Jonathan

We are all familiar with David, the shepherd boy who slew Goliath, but eventually became king of Israel. The youngest of eight brothers, David's father did not even think it worthy to mention him when Samuel came looking for the next king of Israel David had a colorful life, but one of the things that stands out is his memorable friendship with Jonathan, the son of the evil King Saul.

What makes David and Jonathan's friendship so noteworthy is that Jonathan loved his friend so much that he was willing to give up the throne for his sake! Finding a friend today who would sacrifice himself for you is very rare. Jonathan always had David's best interests at heart. He always encouraged him to follow Yahweh's will. David grieved greatly when news came to him that Jonathan had been killed in one of Israel's many battles with the Philistines.

Are you a good friend, or do you stay in friendships only to get selfish benefits for yourself? How can we all be better friends? For one thing, we can try to put others needs above our own. Avoiding selfishness is one of the best



ways to build a healthy friendship. Encouraging each other to do the right thing is important too. Being supportive of your friend when he or she is sad is another way to be a good friend. Treat your friend the way you would like to be treated.

Sometimes we need to break up unhealthy friendships. What are some signs of unhealthy friendships? A person who puts you down and calls you names, or tries to get you to do bad things like stealing or lying is not a good friend. Bullying is also a sign of a bad friend. Tell your parents what is going on. Choose your

friends wisely. As the old saying goes, bad company creates bad character. And never forget Who your best Friend is. Those who obey Yahweh are His friends.

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Do You know?

- 1. What is true about David?
- A. His father did not think he was worthy to be mentioned.
- B. He had a great friendship with Jonathan.
- C. He slew the giant Goliath
- D. All of the above are true.
- 2. Who was Jonathan?
- A. The son of King Saul.
- B. Just some kid at school.
- C. David's brother.
- D. David's nephew.
- 3. What made Jonathan special?
- A. He was willing to give up the throne for David.
- B. He had David's best interests at heart.
- C. He encouraged David to follow Yahweh's will.
- D. All of the above.
- 4. How can we be a better friend?
- A. Avoid selfishness.
- B. Put others needs above our own.
- C. Encourage each other to do the right thing.
- D. All of the above.
- 5. What are signs of a bad friend?
- A. Name calling and put-downs.
- B. Trying to get you to do bad things.
- C. Bullying.
- D. All of the above.





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Friendship

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FEAR NOT!

1 John 4:18

- 1. Who was told, "fear not to take Mary as a wife"? (Matt. 1:20)
- 2. Who was told, "Fear not: for I know that ye seek Yahshua, which was impaled; He is not here; for He is risen"? (Matthew 28:1, 5-6)
- 3. Who was told, "Fear not...for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife shall bear a son"? (Luke 1:13)
- 4. Who was told, "Fear not, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy"? (Luke 2:10)
- 5. Who was told, "Fear not...thou hast found favor with Yahweh"? (Luke 1:30-31)
- 6. Who was told, "Fear not...thou must be brought before Caesar, and lo, Yahweh hath given thee all them that sail with thee"? (Acts 27:24)
- 7. Who was told "Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die"? (Judges 6:23)
- 8. Who was told, "Fear not to go down to Egypt: for I will there make of thee a great nation"? (Genesis 46:2-3)
- 9. Who was told, "Fear them not: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not be a man of them stand before thee"? (Joshua 10:8)
- 10. Who were told, "Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was great calm"? (Mark 4:39)
- 11. Who was told, "Fear him not: for I will deliver him, and all his people...into thy hand"? (Deut. 3:2)

