

THE LIFE OF DAVID
Lesson #3 - A Man With A Heart For Others

Key Verse: "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you."
-- John 15:13,14

1. Like us, David had many friends and acquaintances. Below we have listed several people that had relationships with David. Study the passage indicated and then list some of the positive and negative characteristics of their relationship with him. Some possibilities would include teachability, willingness to confront, loyalty, faithfulness, jealousy, fear, resentfulness, concern, etc.

a.) **Jesse:** 1 Samuel 16:6-13, 17:12-20, 22:1-4

b.) **Saul:** 1 Samuel 18:6-30

c.) **Nathan:** 2 Samuel 12:1-15

d.) **Michal:** 1 Samuel 19:11-17, 2 Samuel 6:15-23

e.) **Joab:** 2 Samuel 3:22-31, 12:26-28, 14:1-3, 14:18-22

2. David and Jonathan are probably the best example the Scriptures give of a true friendship. Consider the following passages and list characteristics of a true friendship that you observe from each of these.

1 Samuel 18:1-5

1 Samuel 19:1-7

1 Samuel 20:1-42

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3. What are the characteristics of a true friendship revealed in these verses below?

a.) Proverbs 17:17 -

b.) Proverbs 27:6, 17 -

c.) Hebrews 10:24,25 -

4. Where do you think a person today would find a friend like David?
Consider 2 Timothy 2:22.

5. How could you develop a friendship with a person like David?

Insight ►

The best way to find and have a friend like David is to become a person like David. In taking on the characteristics of a true friend you will attract others who have like hearts. If your goal is to create a friendship, you will begin to manipulate others and miss the ultimate purpose of a true Christian friendship.

6. What was the purpose Jesus had in mind for His friends in Matthew 4:19?

7. List three or four of your closest friends. Now beside each name write out why you think they are your friends:

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8. Read John 13:34, 35 and answer these questions:
- a.) Why do you think Jesus placed such importance on demonstrating love?
 - b.) Jesus says this is a new commandment. Consider Leviticus 19:18. In what way is Jesus' statement in John 13 a *new* commandment?
9. TRUE or FALSE: The only tangible way that we can really demonstrate our love for God is by loving other people. Explain your answer.
10. Read Galatians 6:2. Now read Galatians 6:5. What are we supposed to do, lift others' burdens or not? Explain.
11. Through concordances, cross references in your Bible, software, internet searches, etc., consider David's relationship with Shimei. *Does David forgive him or not?* The story begins in 2 Samuel 16:5-13, but you will have to look further to answer this one!

Thought ► Read about David's relationship with Abigail in 1 Samuel 25. Regardless of your feelings about women's rights or God's role for women, I think that we would all agree that our world today is dominated by male leadership. From the life of Abigail, what can you learn about how a godly woman can achieve godly ends through a male leader (in this case, a very angry male leader)? ► As you think through this you might consider some of the following questions. What was her goal? What could her possible motives have been for this goal? Does she deal with David in an immoral or manipulative way? Was Abigail being submissive to her husband? What was the eventual result of her action? Does God promise you the same result if you act the same way?