

SERMON NOTES AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

I. Introduction

- a. It is not good for a human to be alone (Genesis 2:18)
- b. Enmity

II. Living under Threat

- a. David was hated
- b. Psalm 7

III. God gives us Friends

- a. David and Jonathan
- b. Aligning with Reality

IV. Choose Friendship

- a. Open the gift: You too? Me too!
- b. Put love first!
- c. Even if it is messy!

V. Conclusion: Who needs you to be their Jonathan?

Discussion Questions

Sharing Life Together

1. What are some of your favorite qualities about your closest friends?
2. What has been your most rewarding friendship? Why?

Reflecting on the Message Together

1. Read 1 Samuel 18:1-11. What do you think it must have been like for David to go through that experience? Have you ever been in a place when someone really despised you and wanted to “pin you to the wall”? How did that experience impact your life?
2. Before Saul turned against David, God gave David a true friend in Jonathan. If God wants to give us friends, why are so many people lonely and lack deep friendships?
3. “Ultimate reality,” writes Timothy Keller, “is a community of persons who know and love another. That is what the universe, God, history, and life is all about. If you favor money, power, and accomplishments over human relationships, you will dash yourself on the rocks of reality.”

How have you found this observation to be true? Why do so many people dash themselves against the rocks of reality?
4. Covenant friendship is a choice to form friendships where God stands between friends. We are going to know and love one another through and with Jesus in our midst. Do you have any friendships like this? What seems attractive/unattractive about this type of friendship?
5. What are the priorities and decisions you can see in your life that encourage you that you are choosing to build your life on covenant friendships? Where could you grow and get stronger in this sort of friendship?
6. How did God speak to you through the message?
7. How can we pray for one another?