

Longview Baptist Temple
Adult Sunday School Lesson
March 22, 2009



FRIENDS AND FUN CAMPAIGN
FRIENDS OF YOUR FRIENDS' FRIEND

AIM: To teach my pupils how to be friends – not how to have friends. You may have someone who will stick with you through thick and thin and you may stick with someone through thick and thin. But, when both of these occur – you will agree that being a friend far surpasses having a friend.

SCRIPTURE: I Samuel 18:1-4

INTRODUCTION: Note the initiation of this friendship is one sided. Not one word here about David loving Jonathon!

THE LESSON:

I. OBSERVATIONS:

a. You don't seek a friend

- i. There is no place in these scriptures where David said, "I wish I had a friend!"
- ii. When you make a statement like, "There we go again getting the short end of the stick!" You are in reality living off of others and that will cause you to be negative every time about any issue of life that is a setback.
- iii. What you are saying is that your happiness depends on how others treat you.

b. David, humanly speaking, got this friend by fighting for Israel against Goliath.

- i. In chapter 17 you have the story of David and Goliath.
- ii. David was the one who said to his older soldier brothers "Is there not a cause?"
- iii. David was the one who wondered how they could let Goliath do this to the God of Israel.

c. God knits friends together as one.

- i. The Bible says that the soul of Jonathon was knit to David.
- ii. "Knit," meant they became one.

d. A friend is a gift from God.

e. A friend makes only demands of himself.

- i. Friendship is not if you will I will!
- ii. Friendship is I will! If you won't I will. If you will I will. Either way I will.
- iii. Friendship is a sacred thing because God gives you those friends.
- iv. You don't lose a friend because friendship doesn't depend on them.
- v. Proverbs 17:17, "A friend loveth at all times."
- vi. Friendship is not a contract between people.
- vii. Friendship is a contract between you and you.

f. A friend does not require or need the friendship returned.

- i. The presence of my joy does not depend upon you.
- ii. The presence of my happiness does not depend upon you.
- iii. The presence of my joy or happiness depends upon me being unselfish in my relationships with those whom I have chosen to be a friend to.

g. Friends are not jealous.

- i. Saul got jealous of David after awhile because David killed Goliath.
- ii. David became popular.
- iii. Also Saul became jealous of Jonathon's love for David. Saul was the king and Jonathon was the son.
- iv. No one can steal a friend. There is a difference between being a friend and having a friend.

h. True friendship does not have to be first.

- i. When you are someone's friend just to see what you could get out of them that is when you start using the phrase "best friends."
- ii. Note II Samuel 9:1 where David said, "Saul and Jonathon were lovely and pleasant in their lives."
- iii. Jonathon was the next in line to be king, but God had chosen David to be the next king of Israel and note I Samuel 18:4. Jonathon was stepping off of the throne and saying David the throne is yours.
- iv. When God knits your heart to someone you want them to have it instead of you.

i. True friendship goes to the friends of your friends.

- i. (II Samuel 9:1; Philemon 16) Paul was a friend to a man named Philemon.
- ii. Philemon was a wealthy man.
- iii. Paul had started a church in Philemon's home.
- iv. Paul had left Colosse and had gone on to Rome.
- v. A man named Onesimus, who was a servant to Philemon had stolen something from Philemon and ran away.
- vi. Onesimus was caught and put into jail.
- vii. There he met the Apostle Paul.
- viii. Paul won Onesimus to Christ.
- ix. The book of Philemon is a letter written by Paul to his friend Philemon.
- x. Paul is asking Philemon to take Onesimus back and give him another chance. (Philemon 16, 17)
- xi. Paul was saying to Philemon – I have a friend here and I want you to treat my friend like you would treat me.
- xii. When you become someone's friend you obligate yourself to more than just that somebody.