



Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13

Bible Study:



Read 1 Samuel 20. Consider how Saul abandoned his responsibilities as king and father, which forced his son to decide between his father and his friend David. And consider how Jonathan gave up his rights as son of the king in order to love and protect his friend David.

The gospel in the story:



The covenant friendship between David and Jonathan is perhaps the clearest picture of a Godly friendship, *next* to the perfectly clear picture that is Jesus i. Scripture tells us that Jesus is the perfect picture of the law fulfilled, and that is certainly true in His demonstration of His love for His Church, in that He literally laid down His life for her.

Application

Head: **What did we learn?**

Q: Who is Jonathan? A: King Saul's son, and David's best friend

Q: What did Jonathan find out about his father? A: for the sake of loving someone else. That Saul wanted to kill David

Q: Why did Saul want to kill David? A: Because Saul had turned away from God's ways, and became jealous of David, who trusted in God for his success.

Q: What did Jonathan do when he found out? A: He warned David, telling him to stay away from Saul

Q: How did Jonathan put David's life ahead of his own? A: He had to cross his own father, for the sake of his friendship with David.

Heart : **Memory verse**

There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:13

Hands: **How does this affect the way I live?**

Friendship isn't about what we can get out of a relationship, it's about what are we willing to give

Home: **How does this affect my household?**

This is a stark picture of a house divided by sin and brokenness. Jonathan had the hard decision of having to cross his own father in order to follow God's ways. Homes that operate under the headship of Jesus are unified rather than divided!

Heaven: **How does this help us share our faith?**

As we love our neighbors, fueled by the power of the Holy Spirit, they will see a friendship can only be explained by the good news of Jesus.