



SERIES: Never Alone

THE POINT: Friendship is a Gift

BIBLE STORY: David and Jonathan || 1 Samuel 18:1-5, 1 Samuel 20

AGE: Grade 3 - Grade 6

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Discover the story of David and Jonathan
- Learn that David and Jonathan were faithful friends
- Understand that friendship is a gift from God

BIBLE CONTEXT

David and Jonathan grew up very differently. Jonathan was the eldest son of king Saul. He grew up in a palace, surrounded by the best food, great and mighty soldiers and anything he could ever need. David was the youngest and had seven older brothers and he spent most of his time in a field looking after sheep.

As a young man when David wasn't hanging with sheep, he served Saul in the palace playing the harp. After David defeated Goliath he joined king Saul's army and became close friends with Jonathan, the Bible describes that they became one in spirit and made a covenant friendship. They were faithful friends through many trials and challenges.

MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)- A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

- Cut out a heart shape from cardboard and on one side write "A friend loves at all times." on the other side write "and a brother is born for a time of adversity. Proverbs 17:17"
- Stick a paper straw or paddle pop stick on the base of the heart. Show the children one side of the heart and have them repeat after you, "a friend loves at all times", then flip the heart to show the other side, "and a brother is born for a time of adversity. Proverbs 17:17"
- Practise this a few times until the children have memorised the verse.



START THE CONVERSATION

- Encourage the children to think of one word that they would use to describe someone who is a great friend. Go around the group and invite children to share their words. (It's ok if children say a word that someone else has shared before.)

DISCUSSION GUIDE - GRADE 3 - 4

- Jonathan grew up in the palace and David grew up taking care of sheep. How did David and Jonathan become friends?
- Read about David and Jonathan in 1 Samuel 23:16 (NIV), "And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God." How can we be the type of friend that helps others find strength?
- Why is it important to have good friends and be a good friend?

DISCUSSION GUIDE - GRADE 5 - 6

- Read about David and Jonathan in 1 Samuel 20:42 (NIV), "Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, for we have sworn friendship with each other in the name of the Lord, saying, 'The Lord is witness between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants forever.'" How were David and Jonathan faithful friends?
- Read some more about David and Jonathan in 1 Samuel 23:16 (NIV), "And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God." How can we be the type of friend that helps others find strength?
- Why is it important to have good friends and be a good friend, and why do you think it's an amazing gift to have a close friend you can always trust?

ACTIVITY

- Give each child a sheet of notepaper and a pen or marker and encourage them to write a short note to a friend to tell them something they appreciate about their friendship.

SUPPLIES

- Note paper
- Envelopes
- Pens or markers

GAME

You can find a list of small group games at <https://lmnetwork.com.au/small-group-games/>

PRAY

Go around the class asking your kids if there is anything they would like prayer for. Ask if anyone would like to pray for each other, and give them the opportunity to. If not, then pray for the needs as the teacher / facilitator. Take note of any prayer requests to be passed onto your student support network.

LESSON WRAP-UP


Take photos of any art or creations created by your children that they would like to share with The Link Show. Images can be submitted to thelinkshow@lmnetwork.com.au

ACTIVITY ANSWERS


SEASON 4, EPISODE 21

ACTIVITY PAGE

- Use the following verses as clues to fill in the missing words in this timeline of David and Jonathan's friendship. This activity can be done as individuals or in a group.



1 Samuel 16:13 (NIV) David is _____ as the future king. (anointed)




1 Samuel 17:15 (NIV) David defeats the Philistine Goliath with a _____. (stone)

1 Samuel 18:1 (NIV) David and Jonathan became friends, _____ in spirit. (one)

1 Samuel 18:4 (NIV) Jonathan made a covenant with David and loved him as _____. (himself)

1 Samuel 19:1 (NIV) Jonathan protects David when _____ tries to kill him. (Saul)



1 Samuel 20:11 (NIV) When David became king and Jonathan had passed away. David cared for Jonathan's Son Mephibosheth, and had him _____ at the king's table. (eat)





DAVID AND JONATHAN

SEASON 4, EPISODE 21



David is _____ as
the future king. 1 Samuel 16:13

David defeats the Philistine Goliath
with a _____ . 1 Samuel 17:15

David and Jonathan became friends,
_____ in spirit. 1 Samuel 18:1

Jonathan made a covenant with David
and loved him as _____ . 1 Samuel 18:4

Jonathan protects David when _____ tries
to kill him. 1 Samuel 19:1

When David became king and Jonathan had passed
away, David cared for Jonathan's son _____ at the king's table. 1 Samuel 9:11

USE THE FOLLOWING VERSES AS CLUES TO FILL IN THE MISSING WORDS IN
THIS TIMELINE OF DAVID AND JONATHAN'S FRIENDSHIP.





DAY 1

In this week's episode of TheLinkShow we looked at the story of David and Jonathan, and today let's remember that David and Jonathan were faithful friends. No matter what challenges they faced they stuck by each other. Did you know the Bible says in Proverbs 17:17 that "a friend loves at all times". What can you do to show your friends that you care for them? Let's pray, "God, thank you give us faithful friends. Help us to be the kind of people that stick by our friends through challenging times. In Jesus' name, amen."

DAY 2

In this week's episode of TheLinkShow we looked at the story of David and Jonathan, and today let's remember how Jonathan helped his friend David to find strength in God. Did you know the Bible says in, 1 Samuel 23:16 (NIV), "And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God." Think of a friend that you can encourage today and help to be strengthened by God. Let's pray for that friend right now. "God, please show us how we can encourage our friends. We pray for our friends right now that they will feel your presence and strength. In Jesus' name, amen."

DAY 3

In this week's episode of TheLinkShow we looked at the story of David and Jonathan, and today let's remember how David and Jonathan were friends that cared for each other. Did you know the Bible says in Matthew 22:39 (CEV), "Love others as much as you love yourself." This is the kind of friendship the Bible says David and Jonathan had. Today, think of a friend who may have a need that you can help care for them, maybe a friend who's been unwell or going through a tough time. "God, Help us today to show love and care for our friends in need. Thank you that you are always there for us. In Jesus' name, amen."

DAY 4

In this week's episode of TheLinkShow we looked at the story of David and Jonathan, and today let's remember that friendship is a gift from God. Did you know the Bible says in 1 Thessalonians 5:11, "Encourage one another and build each other up." Today, think about times that your friends have encouraged you and built you up and then look for a chance today to encourage someone else. Let's pray, "God, thank you for the gift of friendship. Thank you for the friends in our lives who have encouraged us and built us up. Help us today to encourage others. In Jesus' name, amen."

DAY 5

In this week's episode of TheLinkShow we looked at the story of David and Jonathan, and today let's remember how David and Jonathan helped each other in tough times. Did you know the Bible says in Galatians 6:2, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Friends help each other and stay friends through good times and tough times. Think of a friend right now who is celebrating something great, and next, think of a friend who is doing it tough. How can you be a good friend to both of them? Today you can help a friend carry a burden and you can celebrate another. Let's pray, "God, help us to carry burdens together. Thank you for strengthening us and giving us friends to support each other in good times and bad. In Jesus' name, amen."