

# Friend Request

## Week 2: "Friends In Christ"

**Weekly Summary:** What does it mean to find a Christian friend? Is that the same thing as being part of the fellowship of a church? This message explores what it means to have friends who share your faith as well as the important distinction between the fellowship of Christians and the self-selected blessing called friendship.

- ◆ 2 Samuel 1:17-19, 26 - "David took up this lament concerning Saul and his son Jonathan, and ordered that the men of Judah be taught this lament of the bow (it is written in the Book of Jashar). "Your glory, O Israel, lies slain on your heights. How the mighty have fallen." ... "I grieve for you, Jonathan my brother; you were very dear to me. Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of a woman."
  
- ◆ 1 Samuel 18:1, 3-4 - After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself. ... And Jonathan made a covenant with David...Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic and even his sword, bow and belt."
  
- ◆ 1 Samuel 17:45 - "You have come against me with sword and spear and javelin but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel."
  
- ◆ "Lord" = **Jehovah**. Emphasis God's faithfulness to his **promises**.
  
- ◆ Take Away 1: The greatest friendship is based upon a common **belief in God**.
  
- ◆ 1 Samuel 13:14b - "...a man after the LORD's own heart..."

- ◆ 1 Samuel 20:30-31 - Saul's anger flared up at Jonathan and he said to him, "You son of a perverse and rebellious woman! Don't I know that you have sided with the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of the mother who bore you? As long as the son of Jesse lives on this earth, neither you nor your kingdom will be established."
  
- ◆ Take Away 2: Christ's sacrifice leads me to **sacrifice** for a friend.
  
- ◆ 1 Samuel 19:1-2 - Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David. But Jonathan had taken a great liking to David and warned him, "My father Saul is looking for a chance to kill you. Be on your guard tomorrow morning; go into hiding and stay there."
  
- ◆ 1 Corinthians 13:6 - "Love always protects."
  
- ◆ 1 John 3:8b - The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.
  
- ◆ Take Away 3: Christ's protection leads me to **protect** my friend.

### **Points to Ponder**

1. List some blessings of friendship that come from having a common faith in Jesus Christ. Reflect - how often does God come up in my conversation with my friends?
2. What kind of sacrifices have you made for friends? Which blessing means the most to you because of Jesus' sacrifice?
3. Share a time when a friend protected you and when you protected a friend. What did it cost you in terms of resources? Give an example from daily life when Jesus' protection gave you comfort.

**Homework For Next Week: Google "Bible passages on friendship",  
and dig into God's truth on becoming a great friend.**