

Old Testament Characters: Jonathan
1 Sam 18:1-4
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what we can learn from a man like Jonathan.

Intro: 1. When a person mentions Jonathan they think of the friendship between him & David.
2. Jonathan however, was a man of great courage and faith before He became a friend of David's.

I. Jonathan had heroic faith (**1 Sam 14:6**).

A. He was not afraid to fight. (**6a**)

1. He knew the Lord could work for them, but it depended upon the will of the Lord.
2. He was a man who was not afraid of the wicked.

B. He knew that God had the power to do whatever He pleased. (**6b**)

1. Nothing restrains the Lord, which is nothing prevents Him from doing His will.
2. God's hand is not so short that He can be prevented by mankind from doing anything (**Isa 59:1a**)

II. Jonathan had undaunted courage (**1 Sam 14:7-14**).

A. Jonathan had a faithful companion with him. (**v.7**)

1. Jonathan had a faithful companion working with him
2. We too, can accomplish much if we have a faithful companion(s) with us.

B. The plot to fight (**v.8-14**)

1. They climbed and fought together (v.8-13)
2. Together these men kill 20 men in a close battle (v.14)

III. Jonathan was a self-sacrificing friend (**1 Sam 18:3-4**).

A. He honored David after his slaying of Goliath.

1. Jonathan has fought battles against the philistines also.
2. Both men knew victory against their foes.

B. What Jonathan & David had in common.

1. Faith in God.
2. Courage in the face of danger.
3. Devotion to stand against evil doers.
4. Jonathan knew Saul's feelings toward David were sinful, and showed his friendship with David by warning him about Saul (**1 Sam 23:16-18**).

IV. Lessons for us today.

A. Faith & courage like Bible Heroes.

1. Jonathan, David & even Jonathan's armor bearer were men of courage and faith.
2. These men believed in God's power to provide the victory (**Pro 21:29-31**)

B. Bonding friendship over devotion to God & for righteousness.

1. **Jonathan & David possessed common faith, hope & love of God.**

2. **Today are close friends shouldn't be the unfaithful but the faithful.**
 - a. **We should enjoy a like precious faith with our friends this surpasses any friendship with a worldly person.**

Application & Conclusion:

1. **David mourned Jonathan's death because Jonathan was a man of devotion to God and a close friend (2 Sam 1:26).**
2. **Jonathan was a man of heroic faith and courage.**
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9