

The Loyalty of a **FRIEND**

(1 Samuel 20:1-23)

1. Being God's man/woman doesn't mean you will live on a **MOUNTAINTOP**. There will be **VALLEYS**. (1 Samuel 18:11, 21, 19:1, 10, 11, 15, 20, 21, 22; 23:14,15, 26:2; Psalm 23:4, 46:1-3, 61:2, 62:6-8, 95:7, 104:10; Isaiah 41:10; John 16:33)
2. We need people in our lives to check our **BLIND SPOTS**. (Psalm 19:12-14, 139:23-24; Galatians 6:1-5; 1 John 1:5-8; Hebrews 10:24; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; Proverbs 17:17, 19:20)
3. There comes a time where we need to do more than just 'something' for a friend - we have to be willing to do **WHATEVER**. (Proverbs 18:24; Luke 6:31; John 15:12-15; Galatians 6:2; Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)
4. How we follow Christ is reflected in how we treat those who are **CLOSE** to us. (John 13:35; Romans 12:9-10; Ephesians 4:2,32; 1 John 4:20; Galatians 5:14; Zechariah 7:9-10)
5. Rest in the assurance of God's **PROMISES** and remember 'the **ANOINTING**'! (1 John 2:20; Joshua 21:45; Proverbs 3:5-6)
6. When we reach a **TURNING POINT** in our lives (whether good or bad), we can be assured that God is in it and He is with us.



Taking it further to help you THRIVE...

THRIVE Groups are where life and growth take place. We don't want to just say "See you next week" as we leave each Sunday - we want to connect!

For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit thrivekg.org/thrive-groups.

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. David was anointed - chosen by God to be the next king and even the forerunner of Jesus Christ! Yet at a glance it seemed that so little was going right for him; aka, living as a Christian is not a life of all mountaintop experiences. What is the importance of valley moments? What is a valley moment you have experienced recently (or may be experiencing right now)? What did / is God teaching you? In addition to praying for one another (which is primary!), how can we help someone who is in a valley?
3. David and Jonathan had a covenant between them, and they were willing to die to not break their loyalty to one another. How does the present culture view making and keeping promises? What do you think makes our world (in many ways) a low- or no-commitment culture? How can we as Christ-followers be different?
4. David may have had moments where he 'felt' he wasn't going to make it (and we'll see more of that as we continue our study in Samuel), but Jonathan continued to speak as if David's future security was settled - which it was! Why should trusting in God's promises bring peace and security when we are in a valley? What keeps us from clinging to His promises and living in the power of the reality that He is WITH us?