Transforming Friendships

Series: Making Relationships Work: Love, Sex & Marriage October 22, 2017 – Sandra Giet

Four Kinds of Love: Eros, Storge, Agape and Phileo.

The Necessity of Friendship:

A Spiritual Law in Relationships – Luke 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

A. Characteristics of a Transforming Friendship:

1. A Common Passion

David replied to the Philistine, "You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of Heaven's Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 1 Samuel 17:45

Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, "Come, let's go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. Perhaps the LORD will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the LORD from saving, whether by many or by few." 1 Samuel 14:6

2. Intentionally Cultivated

After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself.² From that day Saul kept David with him and did not let him return home to his family.³ And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself.⁴ Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt. 1 Samuel 18:1-4

3. Loyalty

⁴ Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Let not the king do wrong to his servant David; he has not wronged you, and what he has done has benefited you greatly.
⁵ He took his life in his hands when he killed the Philistine. The Lord won a great victory for all Israel, and you saw it and were glad. Why then would you do wrong to an innocent man like David by killing him for no reason?" 1 Samuel 19:4-5

4. Transparency

After the boy had gone, David got up from the south side of the stone and bowed down before Jonathan three times, with his face to the ground. Then they kissed each other and wept together—but David wept the most. 1 Samuel 20:41

5. Sacrificial

¹⁶ And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God. ¹⁷ "Don't be afraid," he said. "My father Saul will not lay a hand on you. You will be king over Israel, and I will be second to you. 1 Samuel 23:16-17

The Power for Transformed Friendships comes from our friendship with <u>Jesus</u>.

¹⁵ I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me. ¹⁶ You didn't choose me. I chose you. John 15:15-16