

2024



PHILIA

WHAT KIND OF LOVE IS THIS?

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Today we look at the love Philia. Philia love is shown through our friendships. Some friendships grow and develop through love and commonalities while others are formed as convenience. Today we look at the friendship of David and Jonathan and how true friendship and Philia love is displayed biblically.

PHILIA

Philia" is the Greek word used to describe deep, meaningful friendships. This goes much deeper than simply acquaintances. "Philia" love binds two people together and holds them through thick and thin. "Philia" friends are faithful, staying close to you in your best moments and your worst.

EXAMPLES OF PHILIA IN THE BIBLE

- 4 friends that let the man down through the roof
- Friends that brought the blind man to Jesus
- Jesus and Lazarus

John 11:3 NIV - So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, **the one you love is sick.**"

- You are Jesus' friend too, he doesn't just love Lazarus
- God is about to send your circle

What does your current circle look like?

1 Samuel 18:1 NIV

*[1] And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was **knit with** the soul of David, and Jonathan **loved him as his own soul.***

- God will allow you to be in close proximity with a friend with no sexual connotations
- You can be connected to someone without them expecting you to be physical

Who are you closest to?

PHILIA SACRIFICES

1 Samuel 18:4 NIV - **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.**

- Friends celebrate you
- Friends make sure you have what you need
- Stop being a friend to those who are only your friend when you can give to them
- Be okay with God removing haters and replacing them with celebratory



Who celebrates you? Who is God releasing you from, but you refuse to let them go? Why are you still holding on?

WHAT FRIENDSHIP GIVES

- *Gives you time*
- *Gives you Energy*
- *Gives you their Space*
- *Gives you their Resources*
- *Gives you a word*
- *Gives you prayer*
- *Gives you clarity*
- *Gives you comfort*
- *Gives you peace*
- *Gives you unconditional love*

John 15:13 NIV - Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

- Friends see things in you that you don't see
- Friends are not jealous or intimidated
- Friends do not drain you
- Friends don't abandon you when you say no
- Friendships costs

Who is your top motivator? Who in your circle do you most dread being around? Why do you still entertain having them in your space?

PHILA COVERS

1 Samuel 19:1-4a NIV

[1] Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David. But Jonathan had taken a great liking to David [2] 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. [3] I will go out and stand with my father in the field where you are. I'll speak to him about you and will tell you what I find out." [4a] Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father

- Real friends cover you
- Your haters see your future and are on assignment to kill you
- Friends warn and help you

- Real friends seek intel to protect you
- Friends cover your name, integrity, reputation, family gifts, and relationships
- Friends cover you in spite of the warfare
- Favor ain't fair
- Real friends believe your present is not your permanent i

Of everyone in your circle, who goes for bat for you? Who can you depend on to be honest with you even when you're wrong?

1 Samuel 20:32-33a NIV

[32] "Why should he be put to death? What has he done?" Jonathan asked his father. [33a] **But Saul hurled his spear at him to kill him.**

- Those coming after you are intimidated by your oil
- You did nothing to them
- You are under attack because you are that kind of friend
- There's nothing the enemy can do to you
- The weapon will form, but not prosper
- God will cover you because you cover others

Who is coming after you?

PHILIA ENCOURAGES

1 Samuel 23:16-17, 18 NIV

[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. Even my father Saul knows this."

- Friends pull you out
- Friends get you together
- When you are drained and at your lowest moment, be careful who you allow access to you
- Friends give you revelation and explanation of your warfare
- You have had too many victories to get scared now
- Everyone cannot handle everything in your life
- It's better to run with success than live with failure

When your true friend approaches you in your time of need, how do you respond? Can you accept the revelation of your situation? If not, why do you struggle in this area?

WHAT DAVID HAD DONE FOR SAUL

- * *Played for him*
- * *Interceded for him*
- * *Fought for him*
- * *Relieved him of pressure*
- * *Covered him*
- * *Submitted to him*
- * *Obedied him*
- * *Loved him*

Proverbs 18:24 KJV - A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly; and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

- Naturally based on what Saul had done Jonathan (Saul's son) shouldn't have been trusted
- You have been pouring but what you are reaping you don't deserve
- Watch how you treat those God sends to you, God is sending you help
- Don't put the one coming in on probation based on what others have done
- Don't push your blessing away, you prayed for this
- When you don't open the door, you stop the blessing and encouragement
- Stop dragging seasonal people into a lifetime journey
- The higher you go, the thinner the air gets, be okay with who falls off because of a lack of air
- You were called to soar with eagles, not pigeons
- There is a friend that sticks closer than a brother
- You cannot afford to turn away who God is sending into your life
- You are a target because of the signs are showing you are going somewhere
- Let go of whoever left the table; the table is being set with new names
- Exposure brings Expectations
- You need a switching friend; Are you defending my character in my absence

How are you presenting yourself to others? How can you ensure you aren't mishandling others despite what you have been through?

- Your purpose will allow pain that God allowed so that you can learn some lessons that are needed

DECLARATION

I AM NOT ALONE, FOR THE LORD HAS GIVEN ME A CIRCLE OF FRIENDS ..

PRAYER

Father God, I thank You for loving me. I thank You for surrounding me with people who love me and care for me. You have placed people in my life that push me, encourage me, and fight with and for me. You have assigned people to me to bring clarity and revelation in times of distress. You are a loving Father and I thank You for my journey in Jesus' name, Amen!