

The Value of *Relationships*

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Believe. Belong. Become.

Introduction:

“Most people give away their relational energy on a first come, first-served basis. Whoever gets their attention first gobbles up their time and relational energy.”

- John Maxwell

“David and Jonathan friendship is renowned in the Bible as the premier friendship.”

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. (V. 2) And Saul took him that day, and would let him go no more home to his father's house. (V. 3) Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. 1 Samuel 18:1-3

(You could say that David and Jonathan were soul mates.)

“When Jonathan looked at David he saw a life without deception. He saw a life of transparent integrity, and his soul was drawn to the veracity of that relationship.”

“What most people really want is to be listened to, respected, and understood.”

- John Maxwell

A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. Proverbs 17:17

I. A relationship has the potential to protect one from danger. (V. 1-2)

And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David. 1 Samuel 19:1

A. There is the prevention a relationship can give in a warning.

But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeketh to kill thee: 1 Samuel 19:2

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

Proverbs 25:11

Why Was Jonathan's Advice So Vital for David?

Because David was so engulfed by the atmosphere of the palace and the grandeur of Saul, he might have hesitated.

Because David was loyal to a fault, he might have stayed out of loyalty even at the risk of his own life.

Because in times of personal crisis where weighted issues are involved, it is difficult to see clearly.

Because when you are attacked by an influential person of Saul's magnitude it can cause you to devalue yourself, and make you think you deserve the attack.

B. There is the perspective a relationship can give in wisdom.

... now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself until the morning, and abide in a secret place, and hide thyself: 1 Samuel 19:2

II. A relationship has the potential to provide diplomacy. (V. 3-5)

"A friend can say something that you personally cannot say.

To say it yourself would make you look like a braggart.

At the same time, they are using their collateral to affirm who you are." **- Warren Wiersbe**

Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the LORD is with him. **1 Samuel 16:18**

And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will commune with my father of thee; and what I see, that I will tell thee.
1 Samuel 19:3

- A. There is the advocacy a relationship can provide.

And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works have been to thee-ward very good.
1 Samuel 19:4

- B. There is the advantage a relationship can provide.

Jo nathan's Admiration for David: For he did put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and the LORD wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause? 1 Samuel 19:5

"Jonathan spoke candidly with his dad. David could have never spoken of himself in that way. Is it not amazing how confident we are when we believe in what we're saying?"
- John Maxwell

III. A relationship has the potential to prevent destruction. (V. 6-7)

- A. A relationship can reverse a judgment in our lives.

And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan: and Saul sware, As the LORD liveth, he shall not be slain.
1 Samuel 19:6

- B. A relationship can restore justice in our lives.

And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan shewed him all those things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as in times past.
1 Samuel 19:7

*“To find a friend who has the same values, the same vision,
the same heart and passion as you do is not to be taken lightly.
It is not to be confused with liking someone, or
enjoying the same things in life. What David and
Jonathan enjoyed was a ‘divine flow’ of
enjoying the same heart for God.”*

- Floyd McClund