

## Same Gender Friendships

What did David and Jonathan have? Check out 1 Samuel 18-20

Initiation and receiving

Openness in sharing needs & openness in meeting needs, reaffirm friendship multiple times

Sacrifice of time, position of power, reputation

Open expression of friendship: physical, emotional, and spiritual

Encouragement, Committed over time, Consistency over time, similar passions, honored each other,

Humble towards each other

1. Jonathan **Initiated** & David **Received** 1 Samuel 18:1-4

Are we willing to be a Jonathan and initiate a relationship?

Are we willing to be a David and receive that relationship?

2. Jonathan **Warned** David of his father and even **Defended** him. 1 Samuel 19:1-6

Are we willing to be a Jonathan in defending our good friends when others speak death?

3. David **Went to Jonathan in a time of need** and **Jonathan met that need.** 1 Samuel 20:1-4

Are we willing to be a David and admit we have needs to a brother in Christ? Or if you're a sister a sister in Christ?

Are we willing to be a Jonathan and meet the needs of those that come to us?

4. Jonathan again **Defends** David to his father. 1 Samuel 20:32

5. David and Jonathan **mutually meet each other's needs** in their goodbye. 1 Samuel 20:41-42

Are we willing to have an open expression of love for one another?

\*\*The interaction was not physical intimacy, but instead reflected customs of their time.

6. Jonathan **Seeks Out** David to **meet his needs.** 1 Samuel 23:15-18

Are we willing to seek out our brothers in Christ and meet their needs?

Brothers in Christ have been taught to never show love to each other for fear of appearing homosexual.

We obviously need common sense, but if the devil can keep brothers from loving each other we lose unity in the body of Christ. Most men who don't receive brotherly love from men look for it sexually from women, pornography, or other men, resulting in pain/regret.

If two of the most heroic men of the Bible can have that relationship without a fear of what the people would think, or be stuck in their own insecurities and unwillingness to hold nothing back, or fear of being labeled weak or emotional, and to meet the needs of another man's heart and nurture him instead of telling them to suck it up, so should we.

These two men were not looking for a fan club, they were looking for a friendship that mattered.