



# Bible Character Study



from Godly Pearls

Making Jesus Christ known, one story at a time.



## A NOTE TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS:

Thank you for downloading this Bible Character Study.

This first page contains different sections to help you when planning for your class, for example, Home-school, Sunday School, Bible Study, Bible Club, Mission class, etc.

We suggest that you print pages 2 - 5 and distribute them to your students.



Topic:

Jonathan - an example of a good and faithful friend



Read the Bible References: The Bible references can be read by different children if possible. Or the teacher can read them.



Goals of Lesson:

- To explain the gift of friendship and our responsibility as good friends.
- To show that Jesus is our greatest Friend.



Lesson Takeaway:

God has given us the gift of friendship and we are to pray for and love our friends. Jesus is our greatest friend.



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Date:



Topic:

Jonathan - an example of a good and faithful friend



Bible References:

1 Samuel 18:1-4; 19:1-7;  
20:1-42; 23:15-18.



Who was Jonathan?

Jonathan was the eldest son of King Saul. King Saul was the first king of Israel.



What did Jonathan do?

Do you remember the story of David and Goliath? After David killed Goliath, he went to speak with King Saul. The bible said in 1 Samuel 18:1 – “Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul”. Wow! Jonathan must have watched on as David conquered Goliath with his slingshot and the power of God. Then, he heard him speak with his father, Saul. He just knew this is no ordinary boy. He wanted to be friends with him.

In 1 Samuel 18:3-4, we read that, “Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. And Jonathan took off the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, even to his sword and his bow and his belt”. So, Jonathan and David started a beautiful friendship.

Sometime later, David became popular, and the people of Israel and Judah loved him. God was with David and gave him wisdom. King Saul became very jealous of David because people liked and praised David, a young boy, more than Saul, the King of Israel. He became so jealous that he tried to kill him at different times, but God always kept David safe.



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## What did Jonathan do? - Continued

In 1 Samuel 20:1-42, we read that David ran away because Saul tried to kill him. When Jonathan found out, he told David, “whatever you yourself desire, I will do it for you” (1 Samuel 20:4). Jonathan tried to talk to his father about it, but Saul would not listen. When Jonathan knew that Saul was determined to kill David, he did all he could to protect David. Finally, Jonathan had no choice but to let David go. “Then Jonathan said to David, “Go in peace, since we have both sworn in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘May the LORD be between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants, forever...’” 1 Samuel 20:42.



## What can we learn from Jonathan?

Jonathan was an example of a good and faithful friend. He was a Prince, the son of a King but was humble to be friends with the son of a common man. He loved his friend, David. He spoke up for David and protected him from the evil plan of his father, King Saul.

Sometimes, God brings someone your path and you become really good friends with them. Friendship is a gift from God and something you are to be grateful for. Sometimes, you hear someone saying nasty or untrue things about your friend. Sometimes, you hear someone planning to hurt your friend. People say nasty things or say hurtful words because they are jealous or envious of what you have. So, they try to make you feel bad by their words and actions.

As a true friend, you can show love by protecting your friend from hurtful people.

Here are some of the ways you can protect your friend:

- i. Talk to God about it. Pray for your friend. Tell God about what you heard or saw and ask God to protect your friend from any troubles.
- ii. Talk to an adult about what you saw – maybe your older siblings, teacher at school or church, or your parents



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## What can we learn from Jonathan? - Continued

iii. In some cases, if it is safe for you, you can speak up for your friend. When you speak up, you show your friend how much you love him or her and you might silence the people planning to hurt your friend.

iv. Talk to your friend about the plan and ask them to be careful. You and your friend can pray together and ask God to keep you safe, help you to forgive the people planning to hurt you and help you to show them the love of God.

Jesus is your greatest Friend! He loves you and cares deeply about you. He demonstrated His great love for you by giving up His life for you on the cross of Calvary so you can be forgiven and free from sins. He wants you to be His friend. You can be His friend today by asking Jesus to forgive you of all your sins. Then, tell Him to always help you to make wise choices. Jesus is alive and one day, He is coming to take His friends to be with Him in heaven forever!



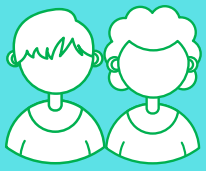
### Memorize:

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



### Scenario review:

Joe is your friend. You walked into your classroom and heard Amber and Juliet planning to hurt Joe. Amber asked Juliet to put a pen in Joe's bag and then tell the teacher that Joe stole the pen. You know that is a lie and it will get Joe into a big trouble. What will you do? Why did you make that choice?





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 **Remember:** God has given us the gift of friendship and we are to pray for and love our friends. Jesus is our greatest friend.

 **Let us pray:** Dear God, thank You for the gift of friendship. I thank You for all of my friends. Please help me to be a good friend, to pray for my friends and to love them. Keep us Lord from all troubles. I ask these in Jesus' name, amen!



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We will like to hear from you.

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