



not what i planned!!!

Friends for Life - part 1

Journey with Jesus: Mark 14:66-Luke 1:4
July 3, 2016 - Pastor Bruce French

List 4 godly friends you have:

1. _____; 2. _____; 3. _____; 4. _____

What takes place in godly friendships?

1. In a godly friendship _____ will inevitably
_____. 1 Sam. 20:1-3

Challenges: a) _____;

b) _____

c) _____

2. In a godly friendship _____ will settle their
_____. 1 Sam. 20:4-11

Character: a) _____;

b) _____

c) _____

3. In a godly friendship _____ are often
_____. 1 Sam. 20:12-17

Commit: a) _____;

b) _____

c) _____

Take Home Truth

In a godly friendship there is a _____
because of the _____. 1 Sam. 20:18-23

Today's Core Practice:

Biblical Community: "I will fellowship with
other Christians because God has called me to
love and encourage others.
(from Hebrews 10:24-25)

Today's Action:

Write a note to a godly friend thanking
him/her for the impact he/she has had
in your life.



Deeper Connection Study

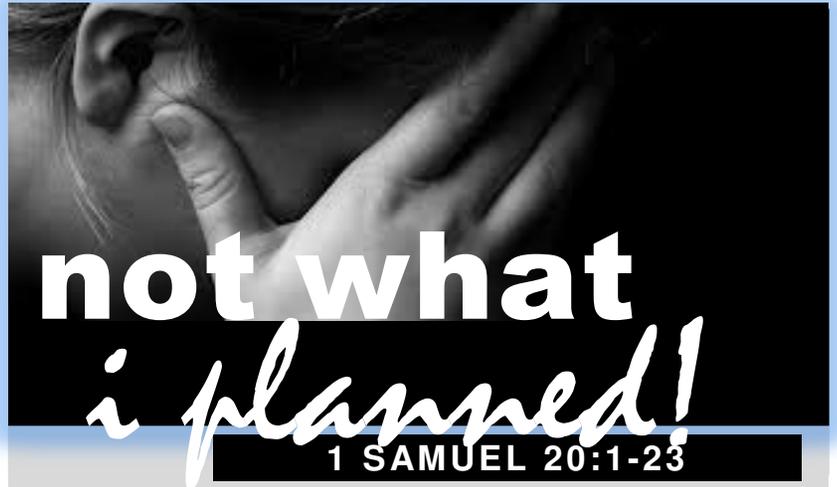
It's official - David is now on the run. Saul has shown his true colors and will stop at nothing to kill David. Under such grievous circumstances, the covenant between Jonathan and David is renewed and reinforced. No matter what happens, they will be there for each other.

Today's Core Practice discussed: Biblical Community.

Read 1 Samuel 20:1-23

1. What was David trying to explain to Jonathan that was beyond Jonathan's understanding (vv. 1-3)?
2. Why do people who faithfully follow God experience open antagonism from others? Is that always a bad thing (cf. Matt. 5:10-12; Jas. 1:2-4)?
3. What extreme measures does David take in order to remain safe (vv. 1-11)? What purpose does David's ruse serve?
4. How does David's "worst case scenario" proposal to Jonathan contradict what God has already promised him (vv. 7-9; cf. 16:12-13)?
5. What indication is given that Jonathan accepts David's call to be king (vv. 12-13, 30-31; cf. 13:13-14; 15:22-23)?
6. What is the quality and depth of your Christian friendships? How is there mutual support and encouragement? How can these relationships grow and thrive?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God for friends who stand by your side no matter the circumstances. Ask God to strengthen your friendships as well as bring new godly friends into your life. Pray for courage and grace as you support your friends.



Studies have yet to reveal the impact that technology is having on human relationships. Users of social media like Facebook and Twitter present the impression that these mechanisms help people stay and feel connected to others. If this is true, it is curious that some studies indicate depression and isolation are on the rise. In fact, in the decade that communication technology like cell phones and the worldwide web had its greatest growth, the diagnosis of depression increased by over 100% in America. This and other observations leave researchers wondering if people really are more connected.

For Christians, relationships are a core value. This reality was one of the key components Christ crafted when he commanded his disciples to "love one another," (Jn. 13:34). However, the idea of loving relationship is not merely a "New Testament" idea but has roots in the Old Testament as well. This divine concept is witnessed in the Hebrew word "hesed," which is the godly love that Jonathan and David shared as friends. How about you, do you have that kind of friend?