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## “B. F. F.” (Part 2)

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(David & Jonathan)

### 7 BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES FOR BUILDING LASTING RELATIONSHIPS (F.R.I.E.N.D.S.) ...

**F**RIENDS ARE FRIENDS FOREVER - IF CHRIST IS THE FOUNDATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP  
(I Samuel 18:1-4; 20:15-17, 42; 2 Samuel 9; 16:3)

- ▶ God’s kind of “love” (agape) is an unconditional commitment to an imperfect person.

**R**EMEMBER CHRIST’S WORDS: LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF (I Samuel 18:1-4; 20:17; 23:16-18; John 15:12-13)

**I**MPORTANT: BE A FRIEND IF YOU’RE GOING TO MAKE A FRIEND

*“But if my father is inclined to harm you, may the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if I do not let you know and send you away safely. May the Lord be with you as he has been with my father. But show me unfailing kindness like that of the Lord as long as I live, so that I may not be killed, and do not ever cut off your kindness from my family—not even when the Lord has cut off every one of David’s enemies from the face of the earth.” So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, “May the Lord call David’s enemies to account.” And Jonathan had David reaffirm his oath out of love for him, because he loved him as he loved himself.” (I Samuel 20:13-17, p. 206)*

*“David got up from the south side of the stone and bowed down before Jonathan three times, with his face to the ground. Then they kissed each other and wept together—but David wept the most. Jonathan said to David, “Go in peace, for we have sworn friendship with each other in the name of the Lord, saying, ‘The Lord is witness between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants forever.’ ” Then David left, and Jonathan went back to the town.” (I Samuel 20:41-42, p. 206)*

*“Let us not love with words or tongue, but with actions and in truth.” (I John 3:18, p. 863)*

### **E**NCOURAGE EACH OTHER IN THE LORD

*“Saul’s son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God.” (I Samuel 23:16, p. 208)*

*“A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver” (Proverbs 25:11)*

*“Wounds from a friend can be trusted.” (Proverbs 27:6)*

*“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” (Proverbs 27:17)*

*“Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.” (Ecclesiastes 4:12)*

### **N**EEDS OF OTHERS COME FIRST

*“Jonathan said to David, ‘Whatever you want me to do, I’ll do for you’.” (I Samuel 20:4, p. 206)*

*“It is more blessed to give than it is to receive.” (Acts 20:35)*

*“If one part suffers, every part suffers with it.” (I Corinthians 12:26)*

*“Regard others as more important than yourself; look out for the interest of others.” (Philippians 2:3-4)*

*“Jesus Christ laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.” (I John 3:16)*