

# LIFEGROUP STUDY

## DAVID & JONATHAN

### WARMING UP

How do you define a friend / good friend / close friend / best friend / acquaintance?  
What makes a good friend a good friend?

### INTO THE PASSAGE

1. Read 1 Samuel 18 vv1-4 and 1 Samuel 19 vv1-10.
2. From these passages, what qualities of friendship are displayed here?
3. What does a “covenantal friendship” look like?
4. Read 1 Samuel 20 vv1-17 and 1 Samuel 23:14-18
5. From these passages, what can we glean about the character of Jonathan?
6. In their friendship, what or who caused the drama and tension? Why?

### APPLYING TO LIFE

7. Why is it important to commit and be loyal in friendships?
8. Discuss the below Dietrich Bonhoeffer quote. Do you agree or disagree? Why?  
*“Sin demands to have a man by himself. It withdraws him from the community. The more isolated a person is, the more destructive will be the power of sin over him, and the more deeply he becomes involved in it, the more disastrous is his isolation. Sin wants to remain unknown. It shuns the light. In the darkness of the unexpressed it poisons the whole being of a person.”*

9. For every friendship, there can be moments of great accountability and loyalty. However all friendships can go through trials. And some can go pearshaped. When sin enters a friendship, it can be destructive. Share with your group a time when you and your friend went through a trial—did it get resolved, or did you both go your separate ways? What can be learnt through these friendships?
10. Read 2 Peter 1:5-7. How can we “make every effort” to do these things? Especially for “mutual affection”? Why do we have a tendency of not making every effort? What can we do about that, learning from Jonathan and David’s friendship?

### MOVING FORWARD IN PRAYER

- Spend some time sharing with each other about any friendships you feel that have ended and you have not managed to seek closure or found reconciliation.
- Pray for one another and each others’ friendships.