

## Jonathan and David Stick by Each Other ■ Lesson 7

Bible Reference: 1 Samuel 19:-1-6

Bible Point: Friends stick up for each other

Bible Verse: “A friend is always loyal” (Proverbs 17:17a)

### Preparing for the Lesson: Prayer

- Read Proverbs 18:24.
- What kind of friend are you?
- Pray: Dear Lord God, I know that you are the highest example of a true, loyal friend. Help me be a true friend to the children in this class. Help the children in my class begin to understand what it means to be a loyal friend.

### Engage Pre-Story:

‘Paper Friends’....Supplies: Crayons, scissors, glue, and image (See below)

Distribute photocopies of the “Paper Friends” handout, two per child. Set out crayons, scissors, scraps of colored yarn, and glue or tape. Instruct children to cut out the paper figures. (Save the paper scraps for “Setting the Stage.”) Have children each color one figure to look like themselves and one to look like a friend. Then help children glue yarn to their figures for hair or clothing. Finally, have them use the glue or tape to join the hands of their figures together. Be sure each child makes a paper figure, as children will use the figures later.

While children are coloring and gluing, ask questions such as “Who are some of your friends?” or “Have you ever helped a friend? How?” Remind children that *friends stick up for each other*.

### Share the Story:

Check out the lesson video on dbKids.org. Below is a simplified version of the story found in 1 Samuel. Depending on your children’s ability to understand, you may lead them using the following poem or read directly from the Word of God. Other options would be to find a children’s story bible to read from, watch a short video about Joseph, or act out the story with older family members.

Begin by asking the children what they remember from last week’s bible lesson. They may even want to act out the story thus far. Sit with children in a circle on the floor and prompt them to recall the facts of the story thus far.

**Friends always share with each other, but *friends also stick up for each other* when they’re in trouble.**

**Questions: Ask**

- **What does it mean to stick up for a friend?** (To stand by him; help her; care for him; protect her from harm.)
- **Who remembers how Jonathan showed that he was friends with David?** (Jonathan gave his bow, armor, and belt to David; he shared with David.)

Say: **Today we're going to read the next part of "David and Prince Jonathan."**

**Get a Bible and Read 1 Samuel 19:1-7 with children.**

**Find a partner. You can help each other do this activity. We're going to hear different situations. If you think the situation shows someone sticking up for a friend, stand up and link arms with your partner.**

**Situation 1:** (*Jonathan sharing his armor with David*) **This is a good thing to do, but it isn't someone sticking up for a friend.**

**Situation 2:** (*Jonathan standing between an angry Saul and David*) **Yes, this picture shows Jonathan standing up for David against Jonathan's own father.**

**Situation 3:** – (*Saul announcing his plans to kill David, and Jonathan sneaking out to tell David*) **Yes, this picture shows Jonathan sticking up for David by sneaking out to tell David about Saul's nasty plans.**

**Situation 4:** – (*Jonathan and David making a plan*) **Yes, the friends are sticking together to make sure David doesn't get hurt. And Jonathan is promising his friendship to David. Have kids sit down again.**

**Jonathan and David stuck up for one another because they cared for each other. God was helping them be brave and loyal to each other.**

**They knew that friends stick up for each other.**

**Now you can take turns telling how you felt when a friend stuck up for you.** Go around the circle, and invite each child to share.

**I'm really happy to hear how you and your friends stick up for each other. It makes us feel special when others care about us and are loyal to us.**

Say: **Jesus also faced some very hard times. Most of his friends were not loyal and did not stick up for him. Some fell asleep when he needed them to stay with him, some ran away when there was trouble, and some said they didn't know him. It made Jesus very sad. But God always stuck with him.**

**Questions: Ask**

- **Why would it make Jesus sad that his friends were not loyal to him?** (Friends should be loyal; Jesus wanted his friends to be loyal.)
- **How can you be a loyal friend to Jesus?** (I can tell other kids how much I love him; I can pray to him more.)

Say: **In today's Bible story, we learned how Jonathan always stuck up for David. Jesus wants you to be loyal to your friends and to him. *Friends stick up for each other.***

## Do the Bible Story: Jonathon and David Stick up for Each Other

Pick up a packet at DBCC with craft items prepared for each child. Remind children that *Friends stick up for each other.*

# Paper Friends

Photocopy and cut out the paper figures. Children will decorate the dolls to look like themselves and their friends.

