

# After God's Heart

Portrait of Jonathan  
Taken from 1 Samuel Chapters 14, 18,19, 20, 23,  
and 2 Samuel Chapter 1

Lesson 5

## **FIRST DAY:** Review and Overview

1. What part of your study on the life of Saul is a warning for you today?
  
2. Jonathan, the son of King Saul, was in an unusual position. Although Jonathan was heir to the throne of Israel, as a man of faith, he recognized the anointing of God on David's life. By befriending David, Jonathan brought the disfavor of his father upon him, forfeiting his claim to the throne. Jonathan chose God's will for Israel over his own self-advancement. Identify the virtues you see in Jonathan from the following Scriptures:
  - a. 1 Samuel 14:6
  
  - b. 1 Samuel 18:3-4; 19:4
  
  - c. 1 Samuel 20:12-13, 42
  
  - d. 1 Samuel 23:16-17
  
  - e. 2 Samuel 1:23
  
3. It is always good to begin the study of the Bible with prayer. It opens the heart to the wonder of God's Word and work. Take a moment to pray before beginning your lesson.

*It may be that the LORD will work for us.*

1 Samuel 14:6

**SECOND DAY:** Read 1 Samuel 14:1-14

1. Who was Jonathan? 1 Samuel 14:1a
  - a. What did he say to the *young man* with him? 1 Samuel 14:1b
  - b. Notice that *he did not tell his father*. Considering what you learned about Saul, why do you think this was the case?
  
2. According to 1 Samuel 14:6, what did Jonathan propose to do?
  - a. Print Jonathan's declaration about the Lord from 1 Samuel 14:6b.
    - (1) What does this reveal about Jonathan?
    - (2) Link Jonathan's declaration with Romans 8:31. How does this truth minister to you?
  
3. Note and comment on the response of Jonathan's *armorbearer*. 1 Samuel 14:7
  
4. Answer the following questions using 1 Samuel 14:8-10:
  - a. What was Jonathan's plan? 1 Samuel 14:8-9
  - b. What assurance would *the sign* give to Jonathan? 1 Samuel 14:10b
    - (1) Why do you suppose Jonathan needed this assurance?
    - (2) Link this assurance with Psalm 118:6. What do you see?
    - (3) In what areas do you need this assurance?
  
5. Describe the victory depicted in 1 Samuel 14:11-14.
  
6. In what way does Jonathan's faith compel you?

**THIRD DAY:** Read 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 19:1-7

1. Use 1 Samuel 18:1 to describe Jonathan's response to David.
  - a. The NIV translation of this verse reads, *After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself.* Share your thoughts on the depth of this friendship. See also Mark 12:31.
  
2. After Saul *took David in*, how did Jonathan demonstrate his love for David? 1 Samuel 18:2-4
  - a. Why do you think Jonathan did this?
    - (1) How are Jonathan's actions an example to you?
  
3. Although Saul became jealous and sought to kill David, what was Jonathan's attitude toward him? 1 Samuel 19:1
  - a. What did Jonathan tell David to do? 1 Samuel 19:2-3
    - (1) What does this advice demonstrate about their friendship?
  
4. Comment on Jonathan's defense of David according to 1 Samuel 19:4-5.
  - a. How did Saul respond? 1 Samuel 19:6
  
  - b. What was the result? 1 Samuel 19:7
  
  - c. How is Jonathan an example of intercession?
  
5. Share a way Jonathan's devotion to David speaks you.

**FOURTH DAY:** Taken from 1 Samuel 20:1-42

1. Write a short summary for each of the following sections:
  - a. The problem – 1 Samuel 20:1-3
  
  - b. David's plan – 1 Samuel 20:4-7
  
  - c. Their agreement – 1 Samuel 20:8-11
  
  - d. Their covenant – 1 Samuel 20:12-17
  
  - e. Their strategy – 1 Samuel 20:18-23
  
2. Note from the following verses how Jonathan defended and protected David:
  - a. 1 Samuel 20:27-29
  
  - b. Samuel 20:30-32
  
  - c. 1 Samuel 20:35-39
  - (1) Share your thoughts concerning Jonathan's actions.
  
3. Read 1 Samuel 20:41-42 and comment on David and Jonathan's parting.
  - a. To Whom did Jonathan commit David? 1 Samuel 20:42
  - (1) What promise is found in 2 Timothy 1:12b concerning those things that are committed to God?
    - (a) How does this promise minister to you?

**FIFTH DAY:** Read 1 Samuel 23:14-18

1. After fleeing from Saul for an extended time, where was David? See 1 Samuel 23:14-15.
  - a. Why was he hiding?
  - b. How do you think David felt at this time?
2. Note what Jonathan did from 1 Samuel 23:16a.
  - a. Why would this have been so dangerous for Jonathan?
    - (1) What does this tell you about Jonathan?
3. Why did Jonathan seek out David? 1 Samuel 23:16b
4. Write and comment on the four things Jonathan declared to David in 1 Samuel 23:17.
  - a. Why were these important reminders for David?
  - b. What would you say to strengthen a friend's *hand in God*?
    - (1) What Scripture or truth would you share?
5. What happened after this conversation? 1 Samuel 23:18
6. Share a time when your hand was *strengthened in God*.

**SIXTH DAY:** Read 2 Samuel 1:17-27

1. Although Jonathan was a great, godly man, he met a tragic end. Read 1 Samuel 31:1-2 and describe what happened to Jonathan.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. In 2 Samuel 1:17-27 David sang a *lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son*. Record a few descriptions David gave of his beloved friend in this song.
  - a. Why do you think Jonathan's friendship was so *wonderful* to David?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Use the following Scriptures to comment on how Jonathan fulfilled the characteristics of a true friend:
  - a. Proverbs 17:17a
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Proverbs 18:24b
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - c. Proverbs 27:6a
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - d. Proverbs 27:9
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - e. Proverbs 27:17
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What aspect of Jonathan's testimony encourages you?

*For nothing restrains the LORD from saving by many or by few.*  
1 Samuel 14:6