Weekly Bible Reader® Issue 3

Dante's Friend

by Kerry B. Kloth

It was a beautiful fall day. The was shining bright. Colorful were falling from in Dante's yard.

Dante's dad was outside raking the . "Dante, please help me rake the ," his dad said.

Dante started to rake the into a big . Then Dante saw his friend Trevor. Trevor was riding his .

Trevor stopped at Dante's house. "Dante, can you ride your with me?" Trevor asked.

"Sorry, I can't ride my now," Dante said. "I have to help my dad finish raking these ."

Trevor knew God would want him to be a good friend. "I can help you rake ," Trevor said. "Then we can finish faster, and you can ride your with me."

So Dante and Trevor raked together. Then they helped Dante's dad stuff the into big .

"We are all done. You can ride your now, Dante," Dad said. "Thank you, boys, for helping me."

Dante and Trevor had fun riding their together.

That night Trevor prayed. He thanked God for helping him be a good friend to Dante.

Art by Michael Streff

God gave David a friend named Jonathan. God gives us friends too. Look at the maze. Help the two friends find their way home from school. Then circle the pictures of things that you like to do with your friends.

Art by Christine Grove

Jonathan Is a Good Friend to David

Bible story from 1 Samuel 18:1-15; 19:1-10; 20:42

Art by Len Ebert

Jonathan was King Saul's son. Jonathan said to David, "Let's be friends." Jonathan gave David a robe and tunic, a sword, a bow, and a belt.

All the people loved David. That made King Saul jealous of David. One day David was playing the harp for King Saul. Saul threw his spear at David, but David jumped aside.

Jonathan said, "David, my father is trying to kill you." Jonathan asked his father not to kill David. But King Saul again tried to kill David with a spear. David ran away.

Jonathan was still David's friend. They said, "We promise to always be friends." And they were.

Say this Bible Memory

Our help is in the name of the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

Daily Family Devotional Readings

- Sunday ..... 1 Samuel 18:1-4
- Monday ..... 1 Samuel 18:5, 6, 9
- Tuesday ..... 1 Samuel 18:10, 11, 13
- Wednesday ..... 1 Samuel 18:14, 15
- Thursday ..... 1 Samuel 19:1-3
- Friday ..... 1 Samuel 19:4, 6, 7
- Saturday ..... 1 Samuel 19:9, 10; 20:42

These verses review the Bible story, Jonathan Is a Good Friend to David.

Family Fun Activities

Together Time!

Friends are special gifts from God! As a family, discuss what makes a good friend; make a list of those qualities and actions. Plan to invite a few friends for dinner or for a day of fun. Before the friends arrive, look at the list again and remind family members of ways they can be good friends to others. Pray for any needs your friends may have.

Family Creations

Plan a Friendship Day, a day when each member of your family will share a homemade gift with a friend. Have each family member choose a friend and write a simple poem about that person. Purchase colorful card stock and cut it to fit a homemade or purchased picture frame. Print the friendship poems on the card stock and decorate as desired. Slip finished poems inside frames and wrap the gifts. On your designated Friendship Day, have family members deliver their gifts. Pray together and thank God for your friends.

Remember, **God can help us be good friends.**