

## **BEING LOYAL**

### **THE KING'S SON, JONATHAN IS LOYAL**

#### **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 1 SAMUEL 18:3-9; 20:1-42**

Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself....

Whatever (King) Saul sent him to do, David did it so successfully that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the people, and Saul's officers as well....And from that time on Saul kept a jealous eye on David.

Saul became still more afraid of him, and he remained his enemy the rest of his days.

Then David fled from Naioth at Ramah and went to Jonathan and asked, "What have I done? What is my crime? How have I wronged your father (King Saul), that he is trying to take my life?" Jonathan said to David, "Whatever you want me to do, I'll do for you."

So David said, "Look, tomorrow...I am supposed to dine with the king; but let me go and hide in the field until the evening of the day after tomorrow. If your father missed me at all, tell him, 'David earnestly asked my permission to hurry to Bethlehem, his hometown...' If he says, 'Very well,' then (I am) safe. But if he loses his temper, you can be sure that he is determined to harm me."

Then Jonathan said to David: "...The day after tomorrow, toward evening, go to the place where you hid when this trouble began, and wait by the stone Ezel. I will shoot three arrows to the side of it, as though I were shooting at a target. But if I say to the boy, 'Look, the arrows are beyond you,' then you must go."

So David hid in the field, and when the king sat down to eat David's place was empty. Saul said nothing that day. But the next day, David's place was empty again. Then Saul said to his son Jonathan, "Why hasn't (David) come to the meal, either yesterday or today?"

Jonathan answered, "David earnestly asked me for permission to go to Bethlehem. That is why he has not come to the king's table."

Saul's anger flared up at Jonathan and he said to him, "Now send and bring him to me, for he must die!"

"Why should he be put to death? What has he done?" Jonathan asked his father. But Saul hurled his spear at him to kill him. Then Jonathan knew that his father intended to kill David.

Jonathan got up from the table in fierce anger; on that second day of the month he did not eat, because he was grieved.

In the morning, Jonathan went out to the field for his meeting with David. He had a small boy with him, and he said to the boy, "Run and find the arrows I shoot." As the boy ran Jonathan called out after him, "Isn't the arrow beyond you?" Then he shouted, "Hurry! Go quickly! Don't stop!"

After the boy had gone, David got up from the south side and bowed down before Jonathan three times, with his face to the ground. They kissed each other and wept together but David wept the most.

Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, for we have worn friendship with each other in the name of the Lord." Then David left.

## THE BIBLE TELLS ME ABOUT BEING LOYAL

### THE KING'S SON, JONATHAN, IS LOYAL

In your Bible, read the story about David and Jonathan (1 Samuel 18:3-9,29; 20:1-42). Draw a line to the picture that answers each question below.

1. Who asked why David didn't come to eat at the King's table?



David

2. Who hid in the field?



Jonathan

3. Who was very jealous of David and wanted to kill him?



King Saul

4. Who said, "Whatever you want me to do, I'll do for you?"



Boy

5. Who shot three arrows?

6. Who ran to pick up the arrows?

7. Who cried the most because he had to leave his loyal friend?





Jonathan, the son of King Saul, loved David and joined with him against his own father.