

# 1 Samuel 20:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt not only while yet I live shew me the kindness of the LORD, that I die not:

## Analysis

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**And thou shalt not only while yet I live shew me the kindness of the LORD, that I die not:**

Jonathan's request for 'the kindness of the LORD' (chesed YHWH) anticipates his own death and David's eventual kingship. He asks David to show covenant faithfulness ('that I die not') - a request David would later honor through Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9). This forward-looking concern for future generations demonstrates how covenant thinking extends beyond individual relationships to enduring commitments.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern succession often involved eliminating the previous dynasty's descendants. Jonathan's request acknowledged this danger while trusting David's character. The covenant extended to 'seed' (descendants) in perpetuity.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How do your commitments extend beyond immediate relationships to future generations?
2. What does Jonathan's trust in David's future faithfulness teach about the long-term nature of covenant love?

## Interlinear Text

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וְלֹא	אֶתְּ	עוֹדִי	אֲנִי	וְלֹא	הַתֵּשֵׁב	אֶמְדִּי
H3808	<b>And thou shalt not only while yet</b>	H5750	<b>I live</b>	H3808	<b>shew</b>	H5978
	H518		H2416		H6213	
וְהַיְדֹתִי	יְהוָה	וְלֹא	אֶמְוֹתִי			
<b>me the kindness</b>	<b>of the LORD</b>	H3808	<b>that I die</b>			
H2617	H3068		H4191			

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Samuel 9:3** (Parallel theme): And the king said, Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may shew the kindness of God unto him? And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet.