

Best Friends Forever

A Bible Story for Kids

Find it in the Bible: 1 Samuel 18:1-4, 1 Samuel 20:1-42

Characters: David, Jonathan, Saul

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AFTER DAVID BEAT Goliath, he met Prince Jonathan—King Saul's son. Something amazing happened: they became BEST friends. The Bible says Jonathan loved David like his own soul.

Jonathan gave David special gifts: his royal robe, his sword, his bow, even his belt! A prince giving his stuff to a shepherd boy—that's how much Jonathan loved David.

But there was a problem. King Saul got JEALOUS of David. When people sang about how great David was, Saul got angry. He started trying to hurt David!

David was scared. He ran to Jonathan. 'Your dad is trying to kill me! What did I do wrong?'

Jonathan couldn't believe it. 'My father would tell me if he wanted to hurt you!'

But David was right. They made a secret plan to find out the truth. Jonathan would go to dinner with his father. If Saul got angry about David, Jonathan would warn him with a secret signal using arrows.

At dinner, Saul asked, 'Where's David?'

Jonathan made an excuse for his friend. Saul got SO angry, he threw his SPEAR at his own son!

Now Jonathan knew. His father really did want to kill David.

The next morning, Jonathan went to the field where David was hiding. He shot arrows and called out the secret danger signal. David understood—he had to run away.

The two friends said goodbye. They hugged and cried. They promised to be friends forever, and that their families would be kind to each other always.

Jonathan could have been jealous of David—after all, David would become king instead of him. But Jonathan wasn't jealous. He loved his friend and protected him, even against his own father.

That's what true friendship looks like!