

God Shows Us What Faithfulness is Through Jonathan

1 Samuel 20

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1. The Suffering of Faithfulness: Faithfulness is willing to suffer for others

Jonathan showed his faithfulness to his friend by being willing to put himself in danger for his friend David.

God shows His faithfulness by His willingness to suffer for us as a human, and we show our faithfulness to others in being willing to suffer for them.

- a) What do people mean by a fair-weather friend? Why do people honour veterans?
- b) What would you tell someone that said that God doesn't care about human suffering?
- c) Why must we be willing to suffer to make any relationship (marriage, church, friendship, etc.) work?

2. The Sincerity of Faithfulness: Faithfulness is trustworthy and points others to trust in God

David reminded Jonathan of the agreement (covenant) that they had made and Jonathan increased the covenant to include Jonathan's descendants while encouraging David to trust the LORD in circumstances.

God shows His faithfulness by His trustworthiness in keeping His promises and we should show faithfulness to others by being trustworthy and influencing them to trust in the LORD.

- a) What are promises of God that you can remind yourself when you're going through a hard time?
- b) (To ask yourself) What are things we say that we will do that we've left undone?

3) The Standupness of Faithfulness: Faithfulness seeks to honour others

Jonathan shows his faithfulness to David by honouring David.

God shows His faithfulness to His people by honouring those who honour Him, and we show our faithfulness to others but outdoing one another in the honour we show.

Main Point: Faithfulness is willing to suffer for others, is trustworthy, and points others to trust in God and honours others.