

A New Beginning

New Friends

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“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing! Isaiah 43:18-19

Why You Need Real Friends...

- ✓ FOR Spiritual Growth
- ✓ FOR Emotional Support
- ✓ FOR Better Health
- ✓ FOR Enjoyment
- ✓ TO Reach Your Goal

Real Friendship

David and Saul finished talking, and soon David and Jonathan^[a] became best friends. Jonathan thought as much of David as he did of himself. ² From that time on, Saul kept David in his service and would not let David go back to his own family.³ Jonathan liked David so much that they promised to always be loyal friends.

1 Samuel 18:1-3 (CEV)

- ✓ Real friendships Overlook Differences.

I no longer call you servants because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. John 15:15

- Jesus did not compromise on his beliefs. BUT that didn't stop him from loving others who disagreed.

- ✓ Real friendships look out for One Another.

Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David. But Jonathan had taken a great liking to David² and warned him, “My father Saul is looking for a chance to kill you. Be on your guard

tomorrow morning; go into hiding and stay there. ³ I will go out and stand with my father in the field where you are. I'll speak to him about you and will tell you what I find out." 1 Samuel 19: 1-3 (NIV)

- Friends don't just "WANT" to let their friends do certain things; they also encourage them to do the right things.
- These types of friendships give us the strength to reach the heights that God wants for us.

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work; if one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up." Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

- ✓ Real friendships look to Carry on the Blessing.

*When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honor. David said, "Mephibosheth!" "At your service," he replied. 7 "Don't be afraid," David said to him, "for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table."
"2 Samuel 9:6-7*

*"Just as iron sharpens iron, friends sharpen the minds of each other."
Proverbs 27:17*

"An honest answer is a sign of true friendship." Proverbs 24:26 (TEV)

Personal Application – Lifegroups are the Best Way to live out real friendships.

2022 WINTER/SPRING LIFEGROUPS

- The Lifegroup semester is 12 weeks, February 13 – May 7.
- There are all types of groups but most fall into 1 of 4 categories:
 - Faith – Family – Fellowship – Financial
- Join us today for an inside look at being a Lifegroup Leader.
- Pray about the Lifegroup that is right for you and get ready for the best year of your life!