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MESSAGE APPLICATION Guide

The Fight of Your Life Week 4 (Friends)

ICE-BREAKER:

Why is it helpful to have good friends?

What were some of the characteristics of your "best friend" relationships as a child?

READ: 1 Samuel 18:1-4, 1 Samuel 19:1-5, and Proverbs 27:6, 17.

In what way do you agree or disagree with the conventional wisdom that says, "when the going gets tough, you find out who your real friends are"?

DISCUSS:

How did Jonathan prove the depth of his affection for David?

How do you think Jonathan felt about being caught between his father and his friend?

What does it say about Jonathan that he chose to remain loyal to David, even to the point of working against his own father's commands?

What is good or bad about forming loyalties that can surpass loyalty to family?

APPLY:

How can you resolve to strengthen your commitment to God so that it could withstand even the agendas of your closest family or friends?

For what strong friendship bond can you thank God and your friend this week?

What friend will you encourage with kind words or helpful counsel today?

What token of lasting friendship could you offer a friend this week?