

You've Got a Friend in Me – Wk. 3: Jessie

Healthy Friendships Don't Just Make Life Better—They Make Us More Like Jesus

Icebreaker

Jessie carried a deep fear of being abandoned after being left behind by Emily. Without getting too personal, what's one quality you appreciate most in a loyal friend?



Read Together

- 1 Samuel 18:1–4
- 1 Samuel 20:1–17
- 1 Samuel 23:14–18

Discussion

1. Healthy friends pursue God together.

Jonathan and David's friendship was rooted in their shared pursuit of God. Their hearts were "knit together," not simply because they enjoyed one another, but because they loved the Lord. Healthy friendships have a shared spiritual direction.

Discuss:

- What is the difference between having Christian friends and having friendships that actively help you pursue Jesus?
- Who has encouraged your walk with Christ simply by the way they live?

2. Healthy friends stay loyal when life gets difficult.

Jonathan's loyalty cost him personally, yet he chose David's good over his own comfort and security. Likewise, Jessie began to heal when Woody and the other toys continually showed up for her, proving they wouldn't abandon her. Loyalty isn't proven when life is easy—it's revealed when life is hard.

Discuss:

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- Why is loyalty often tested during seasons of conflict, disappointment, or suffering?
- Have you experienced someone who remained faithful during a difficult season? How did that impact your faith?
- Is there someone in your life who may need your faithful presence right now?

3. Healthy friends call out God's best in one another.

Jonathan didn't simply comfort David—he strengthened him in the Lord and reminded him of God's promises. Great friends help us see what God sees when fear or discouragement clouds our vision.

Discuss:

- Why is it often easier to point out someone's problems than God's work in their life?
- Who consistently reminds you of God's truth when you're discouraged?
- How can you intentionally become an encourager this week?

Takeaway

Jessie believed everyone eventually leaves. Jonathan showed David what covenant friendship looks like. Jesus is the Friend who never abandons us. Because we have experienced His faithful love, we are called to become faithful friends who pursue God together, remain loyal through difficult seasons, and encourage one another toward God's best.

This Week's Challenge

Be the friend you're praying God will send.