Lessons for the Leader

Do you have a social media account? If so, how many "friends" do you have? Ten? Two hundred? Over a thousand? How many of those friends would you call at 4 a.m. for help in an emergency? Would you even recognize some of your "friends" if you met them on the street? This week's study examines true friendship.

- Read 1 Samuel 14:49; 18:1-4. David was being honored because he killed Goliath. David was called to appear before King Saul. During this encounter, the king's son, Jonathan, made a covenant with David. What words, phrases, or actions in these verses indicate the development of a strong friendship between David and Jonathan? What things contribute to the development of friendships?

- Read 1 Samuel 20:1-42. King Saul turned on David and wanted to kill him, but Jonathan found it difficult to believe his father would take such action. Imagine how Jonathan must have felt when Saul confirmed his plan to kill David. Jonathan was convinced of Saul’s plan when his father made an attempt on his own life. How did Jonathan protect David? What risks did Jonathan take by protecting him? What lengths do you go to protect your friends?

- Compare your friendships to the relationship Jonathan and David shared. What does it look like for us to love our friends at all times? How are you doing in the friend department? Before you teach preschoolers about friendship this week, practice being a friend!

What do these symbols mean?

1 ➔ Application Activities Format: Follow the numbers with arrows for a 30-minute, large group plus 20-minute Application Activities format.

1 Follow all the numbers for a 45- to 60-minute large group only format.
Introduction to Worship

1 ➔ Greet Children

Pull It Together
Offering container

- Show preschoolers where to put their offerings.

2 ➔ Play a Dress-Up Game

Pull It Together
Dress-up clothes
- Set up several piles of dress-up clothes.

Teacher Tips
- Add extra races as needed.
- Invite adults to play, too.
- Guide children to stand in lines.
- Instruct: "Race to the pile of clothes. Put on three clothes items and turn in a circle three times. Take the clothes off, run back, and stand at the back of the line."
- Conclude: "We’ll learn about two best friends. One of the friends gave the other friend some of his clothes."

Worship

3 ➔ Sing "Love Each Other" (DVD, 2 minutes)

4 Sing "There’s No One Exactly Like Me" (DVD, 2 minutes)

5 ➔ Welcome Children and Pray (2 minutes)

- Say: "Welcome! I am so glad you are here. We’ll learn about being friends. Do you have friends? The Bible says Jesus is our friend, and God wants us to be good friends to one another. I am so glad you are my friends."
- Pray.

6 Learn a Handshake (3 minutes)

Pull It Together
Learn handshake.

Handshake
I can [shake with right hands]
Be a [hold right hands and shake with left hands]
Good [open arms wide]
Friend [hug]

- Ask: "What is a friend? (someone you know well and like a lot) What do friends do together? [Pause for responses.] Let’s learn a handshake to remind us to be good friends."
- Teach children the handshake.
- Invite kids to shake hands with several friends.

7 Find It (3 minutes)

Pull It Together
Print "Proverbs" (CD).

- Display title.
- Say: "The Book of Proverbs [point to title] was written by King Solomon. King Solomon wrote the things that God taught him. One thing we can learn from Proverbs is how to be friends. The Book of Proverbs is in the Old Testament. Open your Bibles to the Book of Proverbs."
- Encourage adults to help children.

8 Learn the Bible Verse (4 minutes)

Pull It Together
Paper, marker
- Print Proverbs 17:17 from your preferred translation.

Teacher Tip
Print "Proverbs 17:17 Paraphrase" (CD).

- Display the Bible verse.
- Say: "Our Bible verse is Proverbs 17:17. Find chapter 17 in Proverbs. Then find verse 17."
- Read aloud the verse.
- Say: "This verse says good friends always show love to one another. How can we show love to our friends?"
- Allow children to answer.
- Lead children to say the verse two times.

9 ➔ Tell the Bible Story (7 minutes)

Pull It Together
- Print "Sign Language" (CD).
- Learn the sign language.

- Say: "Let’s learn some words in sign language. Watch what I do, then copy me."
- Teach the children the sign language.
- Instruct: "We’ll do the sign language during our Bible story. Watch me to know when to sign."
- Open your Bible to 1 Samuel and tell the story.
David and Jonathan
Based on 1 Samuel 14:49; 18:1-4; 20

King Saul’s son, Jonathan, and David became friends. As a sign of this friendship, Jonathan gave David his royal robe, sword, belt, and bow. [Sign]

David told Jonathan, "Your father wants to kill me!" Jonathan told David that this could not be true. King Saul would have told Jonathan if he was mad at David. But David said that since he and Jonathan were best friends, the king would not want to upset his son. Even though the friends disagreed, they still loved each other. [Sign]

The friends decided to find out the truth. The next day was a festival. David was supposed to eat with King Saul. David and Jonathan came up with a plan. David would hide in the field for three days. When King Saul asked about David, Jonathan would tell his dad that David asked to go to his home. King Saul’s reaction would let Jonathan know the truth. If King Saul was angry because David was not at the festival, then David was in danger. If King Saul was not angry, then David was safe. Jonathan promised to let David know the truth. [Sign]

Jonathan did as he and David planned. When Saul asked about David, Saul became so angry he threw a spear at Jonathan! Jonathan knew David was in danger. Jonathan went to the field where David was hiding. Jonathan told David he needed to leave. Jonathan and David made a promise to always be friends. [Sign]

10 ➔ Review the Bible Story (6 minutes)

Pull It Together
Scissors, tape, container
- Print "Build a Friend" (CD), cut out individual pieces (pp. 2-4), and place in container. Page 1 is for teacher to know how to place pieces.
- Print "Teaching Picture 8 David and Jonathan" (CD).

• Display the teaching picture.
• Say: "Jonathan and David were good friends. We can be good friends, too. Let’s build a friend as we review the Bible story."
• Invite a child to answer a review question.

Review Questions
1. Who was Jonathan? (King Saul’s son; David’s friend)
2. Who was Jonathan’s best friend? (David)
3. How did King Saul feel about David? (wanted to kill David)
4. Did Jonathan and David always agree? (no, Jonathan did not think David was in danger)
5. How did Jonathan discover how his father really felt about David? (They devised a plan for David to hide in the field during the festival. If Saul was angry, then David was in danger.)
6. Was David in danger? (yes)
7. What promise did Jonathan and David make to each other? (to always be friends)
8. When should a friend love another friend? (always)

• Instruct: "Pull a paper from my container. Place the piece where it should go on a person."
• Continue to ask questions, repeating as needed, until the friend is built.
• Comment: "We put together a paper friend. We can be good friends to real people."

11 ➔ Make Application (3 minutes)

Pull It Together
Friend made during step 10

• Remark: "Look at our friend. He has a friendly face. How do you think he should treat his friends? What are things a good friend does? What are things a good friend should not do?"
• Allow children to answer.
• Instruct: "Say 'I can be a good friend.'"
• Lead kids to respond.

12 ➔ Sing "Glorious Is Thy Name"
(DVD, 2 minutes)

13 ➔ Present Offering and Pray (2 minutes)

14 ➔ Use Worship Guides (7 minutes)

Pull It Together
Worship Guides, markers

• Distribute Worship Guides and markers.
• Guide kids to complete Worship Guide activities.
• Relate: "These activities helped us know we can be good friends."

15 ➔ Go to Application Activities or Wrap-Up
Wrap-Up
(Large Group Only Format)

16 Sing "For God Made Me Just That Way" (DVD, 2 minutes)

17 Pray (2 minutes)
- Say: "Good friends pray for each other."
- Invite volunteers to pray for friends.

18 Play a Review Game (6 minutes)

Pull It Together
Dress-up clothes from step 2, printed Proverbs 17:17 sign from step 8, "Teaching Picture 8 David and Jonathan" from step 10, large bag
- Put dress-up clothes in the bag.
- Enlist an adult to be dressed up.

Teacher Tip
Add a few funny items, like a clown wig, nose, large glasses, or funny shoes.

- Display the Bible verse.
- Lead kids to say and sign the statement used during the Bible story ("Sign Language").
- Invite each child to find a partner and do the friend handshake (see step 6).
- Display the teaching picture.
- Say: "We'll tell about the Bible story and dress [name adult] as we do."
- Invite a child to say something he remembers from the story.
- Instruct the child to pull one thing from the bag and help put it on the adult volunteer.
- Repeat as time allows.

19 Dismiss Children to Parents

Wrap-Up
(Application Activities Format)

16 ➔ Sing "For God Made Me Just That Way" (DVD, 2 minutes)

17 ➔ Highlight Application Activities (2 minutes)
- Call on several children to tell what they did in their Application Activities.
  ➔ Arts and Crafts—Make Postcards
  ➔ Dramatic Play—Make Friendship Mixes
  ➔ Games—Run Friend Obstacle Courses
  ➔ Exploration and Discovery—Play a Bible Book Game
- Apply: "Our activities helped us learn we are to be good friends."

18 ➔ Play a Review Game (6 minutes)

Pull It Together
Dress-up clothes from step 2, printed Proverbs 17:17 from step 8, "Teaching Picture 8 David and Jonathan" from step 10, large bag
- Put dress-up clothes in the bag.
- Enlist an adult to be dressed up.

Teacher Tip
Add a few funny items, like a clown wig, nose, large glasses, or funny shoes.

- Display the Bible verse.
- Lead kids to say the verse using the sign language.
- Display the teaching picture.
- Say: "We'll tell about the Bible story and dress [name adult] as we do."
- Invite a child to say something he remembers from the story.
- Instruct the child to pull one thing from the bag and help put it on the adult volunteer.
- Repeat as time allows.

19 ➔ Dismiss Children to Parents

*Giant Game Floor Mat (001114564) may be ordered through LifeWay Christian Resources Customer Service Center at 1.800.458.2772 or online at www.lifeway.com.
Worship Through Arts and Crafts

Make Postcards
- Say: "God gives us friends. Jonathan showed love to David. Friends should show love to one another. How can we show love to our friends? (share toys, play fair, take turns, give gifts, etc.) Who likes to get mail? We can show love by sending mail. Let's design and make postcards for friends."
- Point to the supplies.
- State: "Cut a large circle, square, rectangle, or triangle shape from the paper to be your postcard. Decorate one side first. I'll help you address the other side before you finish decorating. Use the craft scissors to make fun edges on your paper or to cut small pieces to glue on your cards. You can also cut and glue ribbon to your cards."
- Assist kids with tracing and cutting shapes.
- Talk about the Bible story.
- Invite each child to make more than one postcard.
- Guide kids to clean the area.
- Lead kids to say the Bible verse (Proverbs 17:17).
- Comment: "We have been good friends taking turns with our supplies and working together. Continue to be good friends by giving or mailing your postcards to your friends. We can be good friends."
- Pray.

Worship Through Dramatic Play

Make Friendship Mixes
- Say: "God gives us friends. Friends show love to one another. Jonathan showed love to David. How can we show love to our friends? (share toys, play fair, take turns, give gifts, etc.) We can show love by making and giving friends snack bags."
- Give each child a white lunch bag and gift tag.
- Instruct: "Decorate the bag to put the food in. Decorate the gift tag to attach to the bag."
- Allow time for kids to decorate the bags and tags.
- Show children where to write their names on the gift tags.
- Assist kids with placing the food items in the bags.
- Show children how to fold the tops of the bags down.
- Punch a hole at the top of each bag and attach a gift tag with ribbon.
- Allow children to make bags for themselves.
- Ask: "Whom will you give your bag to this week? You can be a good friend. You show love when you give something to your friend. Who showed love in our story? (Jonathan and David) What did Jonathan give David? (robe, sword, belt, bow) You can show love when you give your friend a snack."
- Pray.

Pull It Together

Heavyweight paper, scissors, craft scissors, glue, rulers, embellishments (stickers, rickrack, ribbon, etc.), shapes (triangle, round, square, rectangle) for kids to trace, markers

Teacher Tips
- Bring pre-made postcards or cut out several different shapes from heavyweight paper for kids to use.
- Mark address area on a postcard for kids to see.

Pull It Together

Pretzels, O-shaped cereal, fish-shaped crackers, raisins, dried fruit, chocolate-coated candy, white lunch bags (2 per child), foam shapes (peel-and-stick), crayons, bowls, spoons, tongs, ribbon, hole punch, scissors, tables, ruler, marker
- Print "Friendship Tag" and "Allergy Alert" (CD). Cut apart tags.
- List food items and post "Allergy Alert."
- Fill small bowls with food items and set on the table.
- Place crayons and foam shapes in the middle of another table.
- Cut ribbon into 12-inch lengths (1 per child).
**Worship Through Games**

**Run Friend Obstacle Courses**
- Review: "Who were the two friends in our Bible story? (David and Jonathan)
  
  David and Jonathan showed love by giving things to one another and helping each other. Everyone choose a friend to stand beside."
- Assist kids to find and stand by friends, allowing groups of two or three.
- State: "Let’s run friend obstacle courses."
- Demonstrate the path and activities of the course.
- Say: "Friends must stay together to complete the course. Wait for your friend to crawl under or go around or say 'I can be a friend' before going to the next part of the course."
- Allow friends to run the course, one group after the other.
- Say: "We have fun when we do things with friends. I am glad God gave us friends. We can be good friends."
- Invite kids to reset the course.
- Run the new course.
- Talk about the Bible story.
- Challenge about the Bible story.
- Guide kids to clean the area.
- Pray.

**Pull It Together**

**Hula hoops, foam noodles, 2 ropes, chairs, ball, basket, tables, puzzle**
- Set up an obstacle course around the room: go under the tables, around chairs, hop over the noodles while saying the life application, swim between the two ropes, put together the puzzle, throw a ball in a basket, and name the friends in the story.

**Teacher Tip**

Place footprints on the floor for children to follow the path or number each station.

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**Worship Through Exploration and Discovery**

**Play a Bible Book Game**
- Say: "We learned from the Bible book 1 Samuel about the friendship between David and Jonathan. Let’s play a game to explore other Bible book names."
- Distribute cards and pencils.
- Instruct: "I’ll show a letter. Write that letter in any blank on your card. We’ll continue until all the blanks are filled in with letters."
- Display each letter, inviting kids to fill in the places on their cards. Repeat letters such as J and M for kids to use multiple times.
- Enlist adults to help kids write their letters.
- Say: "I’ll show and read aloud a Bible book name. Look for the first letter of the name on your card. Cover that letter with a paper square. Cover one letter at a time. The first person to cover one whole line going up and down or across will yell 'books.' Wait until we check his card before removing your paper squares."
- Pull and read aloud Bible book names, pausing for kids to cover letters.
- Check the first child’s card after he yells "books."
- Invite kids to pair up and use only one card to play this time.
- Say: "Friends will help each other cover the squares. When you have more than one of the same letter, cover all of the squares with that letter."
- Play the game.
- Direct friends to switch cards and play again.
- State: "God gave us 66 books in the Bible. The Bible helps us know how to be good friends. We can be good friends."
- Lead kids to say the Bible verse (Proverbs 17:17).
- Pray.

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**Pull It Together**

**Small construction paper squares, bag, pencils, scissors**
- Print "Bible Book Game" (CD). Print 1 game card per child. Cut apart page 2 letters.
- Print "Books of the Bible" (CD), cut apart, and place in bag.
- Display Old Testament and New Testament titles where kids can see them.

**Teacher Tips**

- Use plastic disks or buttons to cover spaces.
- Encourage kids to say what testament each book is located in after covering squares.

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**Worship KidStyle Preschool Edition Leader Guide**

A friend loves at all times.

Proverbs 17:17
times
all
at
loves
friend
A
A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17

I am glad you are my friend.

Your friend,

__________________________
Allergy Alert

Note the items listed. Tell a teacher if your child has any known allergies to any of the items.
BIBLE

FREE SPACE

BIBLE

FREE SPACE

BIBLE

FREE SPACE

BIBLE

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Proverbs  
Ecclesiastes

Song of Songs  
Isaiah

Jeremiah  
Lamentations

Ezekiel  
Daniel

Hosea  
Joel
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James

1 Peter

2 Peter

1 John

2 John

3 John

Jude

Revelation