

By Mrs. Bessie Wilbon



Sunday School Lesson

Subject: Jonathan & David: Loyal Friends
1 Sam., 2 Sam. August 21, 1983

INTRODUCTION

There are books on the market designed to help us improve our relations with other people. Some books give many excellent suggestions such as our taking an interest in other persons and being concerned for their needs. From one perspective, it suggests a caring attitude that may even be mistaken as Christian. But the thesis seems to be that the entire process of making friends is a means whereby one may, through these "friends" achieve his own goals in life. Such an attitude as this is wholly incompatible with genuine friendship, which is not a means at all but a greatly to-be-desired end in itself. Apart from the friendship of Christ, perhaps one can have no greater blessing on this earth than to have a friend.

Friends such as we are considering are rare - but they are not totally unavailable. It is just that true friendship requires cultivation, and in our frantic environment it is difficult. Then, too, there are certain qualities of character that make friendship possible. Unless we possess those qualities and our lives touch others with similar qualities, true friendship never will be experienced.

In this lesson we will consider a friendship that for centuries has been considered a model for all time - the friendship between Jonathan and David.

LESSON BACKGROUND

The time of our lesson is about 1025 B.C. when the period of the judges was drawing to a close. Samuel, the last of the judges, had anointed Saul to be the first King of Israel. The Philistines had invaded the hill country and were posing a great threat to the security of Saul's people. When they were encamped about seven miles north of Jerusalem, Saul's son Jonathan, alone at night with the armor bearer, scaled a ravine and attacked an outpost of the enemy, slaying about 20 of them, (1 Samuel 14:13, 14). In the darkness the enemy panicked and scattered. When the watchman of Saul reported what was taking place, the king rallied his forces and pressed the attack. The result was that the Philistines suffered an overwhelming defeat. We mention this to introduce the fact that Jonathan was a man of valor, if not even daring.

Jonathan's Friendship for David: Jonathan made the first move toward friendship. His initiation of the relationship with David tells much of the character of this eldest son of Saul, (1 Samuel 18:1-4). And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. David and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. Then Jonathan and David made a covenant because he loved him as his own soul. And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle. Some persons in Jonathan's position might have been jealous of David, but not he. A valiant man himself, Jonathan had known such adoration from the people as was now being showered upon this newcomer. But far from being jealous, he was filled with admiration for David. Brave and courageous himself, he recognized in David a kindred spirit. One quality of a person who would be a friend and have a friend is the capacity of seeing and appreciating in another that which is noble and admirable. This Jonathan had to a marked degree. He was the older of the two, but he was also the crowned prince, but he did not hesitate to offer his love and friendship to this son of Jesse.

True friendship will be expressed in some way or it will not last. Jonathan demonstrated the sincerity of his love for David by a covenant, for we may be sure it as he who took the initiative in the matter. It would not have been appropriate for David, the commoner, to propose a friendship pact between himself and a king's son. But the king's son could make a covenant with the shepherd boy and he did. Thus the two became lifelong friends. Christ, God's Son, proposes a covenant of love with us, to become both our Savior and our Friend.

Before concluding let us see the contrast between Saul and his son and consider our own friendliness capabilities in the light of his comparison. In Saul there was a spirit of envy that led to hatred; in Jonathan was a spirit of admiration that led to love and friendship. Saul was a man of valor; so was Jonathan. Both had proved themselves.

Jonathan responded with genuine appreciation and was moved to become a friend and supporter of David.



Mr. and Mrs. F. V. "Pete" Allison Jr. announce the engagement of their daughter Karen Michele to Curtis L. Davis. Ms. Allison is a Durham native. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the North Carolina Central University School of Law. She is now an Associate Attorney General with the North Carolina Department of Justice in Raleigh, N.C. Mr. Davis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Davis of Whiteville, N.C. He is a graduate of North Carolina Central University and North Carolina Central University School of Law. He is now serving as a First Lieutenant in the United States Air Force as a Contracts Officer at Barksdale Air Force Base, Shreveport, Louisiana. The wedding is planned for September 17 in Durham, N.C.

Get Ready To Attend Post's Churchwoman Of Year Banquet

You've waited patiently for five weeks to find out who The Charlotte Post "Churchwoman of the Year" will be.

Well, don't wait any longer. Don't wait until it's announced in The Post or until one of your friends tell you about it. Come out to the "Churchwoman of the Year" Banquet in the Charlotte Civic Center and get a taste of the excitement for yourself.

See if your church's representative or someone you know will be the recipient of the grand prize - an expense-paid trip to the Bahamas for three days and two nights. You'll be sorry if you can't see for yourself how the women will react when one is presented a fur stole, and the other a \$500 shopping spree.

Besides the grand prizes that will be distributed, the guest speaker will be former professional football player Pettis Norman! Many local businesses will also be recognized for their continued support of The Charlotte Post.

Topping all the treats is a meal promised to be de-

lectable, catered by Betty McCarroll's Catering Service. What better way to get the Labor Day weekend rolling than spending it with the staff and friends of The Charlotte Post: The Voice of the Black Community.

Don't miss out on one of the biggest events in the Queen City. Call Ken Finch at The Charlotte Post about reserving your seats today. The telephone number is 376-0496. If you prefer, send a personal check or money order to: The Charlotte Post, P. O. Box 30144, Charlotte, N.C. 28230.

Tickets are \$12.50 or \$10 if purchased in packets of 10 or more. All seating is reserved.

POST ADVERTISERS OFFER THE BEST BUYS IN TOWN!

LONG & SON MORTUARY SERVICE

"We Excel In Quality and Service."
Employee of the Week



Rev. Anthony L. Jinwright

Rev. Anthony L. Jinwright is the Business Manager for Long & Son Mortuary Service. In this capacity he is responsible for the overall operation of the Mortuary and ensures that all units perform effectively. Rev. Jinwright has been employed with Long & Son since 1976.

In addition, Rev. Jinwright is a licensed Embalmer and Funeral Director. He consults with the family of the deceased in outlining the order of services and is present at the funeral site to give direction and see to it that the service is carried out in a dignified manner.

Being a minister allows Rev. Jinwright to offer spiritual guidance so often necessary to the bereaved families.

Rev. Jinwright attended American Academy McAllister Institute of Funeral Service in New York City and Hood Theological Seminary at Livingstone College in Salisbury, N.C.

Married to the former Harriet Porter, they are the parents of one child, Anthonae.

Rev. Anthony L. Jinwright - true to his calling, a servant of the people.

"We Invite Inspection of Our Facility"
2312 Beatties Ford Rd.
394-1111



ADVERTISED ITEM POLICY

Each of these advertised items is required to be readily available for sale at or below the advertised price in each A&P Store, except as specifically noted in this ad.

PRICES EFFECTIVE THRU SAT., AUG. 20 AT A&P IN CHARLOTTE

SIZZLING SUMMER SAVINGS

DOUBLE COUPONS

FOR EVERY \$10.00 YOU SPEND, WE WILL DOUBLE 5 MANUFACTURER'S COUPONS, EXAMPLE: \$10 PURCHASE = 5 COUPONS, \$20 PURCHASE = 10 COUPONS, \$100 PURCHASE = 50 COUPONS. ADDITIONAL COUPONS REDEEMED AT FACE VALUE!

Between now and Aug. 20, we will redeem national manufacturer's cents-off coupons up to 50¢ for double their value. Offer good on national manufacturer's cents-off coupons only. (Food retailer coupons not accepted.) Customer must purchase coupon product in specified size. Expired coupons will not be honored. One coupon per customer per item. No coupons accepted for free merchandise. Offer does not apply to A&P or other store coupons whether manufacturer is mentioned or not. When the value of the coupon exceeds 50¢ or the retail value of the item, this offer is limited to the retail price.

Savings are Great with A&P's DOUBLE SAVINGS COUPONS!

MFC'S COUPON	MFC CENTS OFF	A&P ADDED CENTS OFF	TOTAL COUPON AT A&P
COUPON A	25	25	50
COUPON B	18	18	36
COUPON C	50	50	\$1.00
COUPON D	75	25	\$1.00

SAVE \$1.41 LB.

Sirloin Steak
WESTERN GRAIN FED BEEF

Bone In **258**
lb.

SAVE 71¢ LB.

Chuck Roast
WESTERN GRAIN FED BEEF

Bone In **118**
lb.

FRESH LEAN COUNTRY FARM FRESH

Pork Picnic Roast lb. **78¢**

A&P (BEEF 12 OZ. 1.08)

Meat Franks 12 oz. pkg. **98¢**

SMOKY CANYON

Turkey Ham lb. **129**

A&P CHOPPED

Chipped Meat 5 2.5 oz. pkgs. **199**

SAVE 41¢ LB.

Whole Fryer Legs
U.S.D.A. INSPECTED FRESH

lb. **78¢**

SAVE 61¢ LB.

Sliced Bacon
MARKET STYLE

lb. **98¢**

THE FARM
CALIFORNIA RED & WHITE

Seedless Grapes lb. **79¢**

SAVE 20¢ LB.

RED RIPE

Tomatoes lb. **39¢**

JUICY SUNNYSLOPE

Nectarines lb. **69¢**

SWEET FLORIDA

Yellow Corn 10 ears only **159**

JUMBO SIZE

Celery each stalk **59¢**

GREAT GROCERY SAVINGS

Flav-O-Rich Milk
LOWFAT • HOMOGENIZED

gal. ctn. **168** Limit One

Jane Parker Bread
WHITE

24 oz. loaves **79¢** Limit Two

SAVE 21¢

Large Eggs
A&P GRADE "A"

dozen only **68¢** Limit Two

SAVE 61¢

Mayonnaise
KRAFT

32 oz. jar **78¢** Limit One

BLUE BONNET

Margarine Qtrs. 2 1 lb. pkgs. **100**

KRAFT

Grape Jelly 2 lb. jar **99¢**

FLAV-O-RICH • RICH & CREAMY

Ice Cream 1/2 gal. ctn. **229**

TROPICANA

Orange Juice 1/2 gal. ctn. **99¢**

SAVE 47¢

Tide Detergent
25¢ OFF LABEL

49 oz. box **147** Limit One

SAVE 39¢

Scottowels
DECORATED • WHITE ARTS & FLOWERS

big roll **48¢** Limit One

Stroh's Beer
Regular Or Light

Ctn. Of 6 **229**

12 Oz. Cans

Good Only In Charlotte

Coca Cola
DIET COKE • SPRITE • TAB

2 Ltr. Btl. **119**

Good Only In Charlotte

• 1334 CENTRAL AVE. • 180 SHARON AMITY • 4337 PARK ROAD
• 1015 PROVIDENCE RD. • 4459 CENTRAL AVE. • 1600 WEST TRADE
• 5831 S. BLVD.