

The Relationships We Need – Part 1

Proverbs 18:24 says, “A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.” It may be that our world has become a place where we have many “companions” but we may not have real “friends.”

The Four Loves – C.S. Lewis

Storge

love for family,
parent for child,
sibling love

Sociologically
and biologically
necessary

Without storge
none of us
would have
been reared

Philos

social relationships
love – neighbors,
ethnic group,
nation

Have to get
along with
people

Eros

erotic love –
romance

Have to deal
with impulses –
“urge to merge”

Agape

friendship love

We can live and
breath without
this

The Relationships We Need – Part 2

David &
Goliath
1 Sam 17:37,
45-47

And David said, “The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “Go, and the LORD be with you!” . . . Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶ This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head.

1 Sam 17:45-47

And I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, ⁴⁷ and that all this assembly may know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hand.”

1 Samuel 17:48-50

When the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine.⁴⁹ And David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine on his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the ground.⁵⁰ So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him...

1 Samuel 18:1-4

As soon as he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.² And Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. ³ Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. ⁴ And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt.

What made David and Jonathan's friendship flourish?

A shared treasure

Jonathan saw how David risked his life for God

Other-centeredness

Humbled by the One he saw at work in David, Jonathan was moved to fearless other-centeredness in his love for David

Eternal friendship

Love God more than others or self, then can have intimate, giving and eternal friendships