

SESSION 4 BAND OF BROTHERS PART 2



There are multiple examples of true brotherhood that we can look to in Scripture, such as the story of King David and Jonathan. In this second session on brotherhood, the teens learned and discussed how brotherhood can pull them up and allow them to be even better men than they thought they could be.

The CONNECT section of the parent sheet connects you with the information that was presented to your teen in our small discipleship group. The DISCUSS section contains questions that you can use to start meaningful discussion on the topic covered and how it relates to your teen's life. The COMMIT section explains to you the commitment or challenge that your teen committed to as a way to grow in his/her faith.

CONNECT

The friendship of King David and Jonathan illustrated in Scripture is an example of how two guys can be united in a friendship that brings the best out of them. The friendship of David and Nathan is an example of how men can also keep one another accountable and challenge each other to repent and return to God. Friendship not only allows us to be truly free to be ourselves, but it can also help us to become the people who God has created us to be. God can use friendship to help us grow in holiness.

This session is a continuation of our discussion on what it means to be a “band of brothers.” The teens heard these stories from Scripture, and they discussed how their brothers in Christ can help them be accountable to their values and their faith. They also came up with a mission statement for their discipleship group, to serve as a guide for them on their mission to help their brothers in Christ on the road to heaven.

DISCUSS

While having fun with friends is a good thing, God has so much more in mind for us than that. Friends can be the people who stand up for us, defend us, and help us become the men and women God created us to be.

Here are some conversation starters to help you discuss this topic with your teen. And remember to share your perspectives as well.

- » What kind of impact do you think a love for God can have on a friendship?
- » Why is it difficult to really change your life for Christ on your own? How can your friends—your brothers and sisters—help you to be accountable to your values and your faith?
- » How can you help a brother or sister in Christ who is struggling to live out his/her faith? How can you be an encouraging support, or kindly call him or her to be strong in faith? How can you bring your friends closer to Christ?



“And when the Philistine [Goliath] looked, and saw David, he disdained him; for he was but a youth, ruddy and comely in appearance. And the Philistine said to David, ‘Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?’ And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine said to David, ‘Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field.’ 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 defiled. This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down, and cut off your head; 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, 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 17:42-47

 **COMMIT**

This week, teens were challenged to reflect on the story of David, especially in 1 Samuel 17 (the story of David and Goliath) and 2 Samuel 11-12 (the story of David, Bathsheba, and Nathan). As they read, they should imagine themselves in the story and reflect on the questions below.

- » 1 Samuel 17—How does Jonathan help David assume his role as king? What qualities does Jonathan have that make him a good friend? What characteristics of brotherhood do David and Jonathan share? How is God calling you to help your friends in the circumstances and challenges of their lives?
- » 2 Samuel 11-12—How does Nathan help David repent of his sin and turn back to God? Have you ever been in a situation where you had to call someone out, or where someone was calling you out and you had to be humble and accountable? What ways does God use your friends to call you to be a better man?