

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

It's Not You, It's Me

The Sharing of Life

1 Samuel 14:1-14

Week of April 17, 2020

(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

In these challenging days of quarantine, we are being reminded that relationships are both precious and very difficult. The Bible can help! We started a six-week study of the king's son named Jonathan. Jonathan had an uncanny ability to build healthy relationships. God can help us learn from Jonathan's example and enjoy increasingly healthy connections to the people in our life.

Kicking it off: In this season of quarantine, what social context do you miss most?

Discussion:

1. Reread *1 Samuel 14:1* Jonathan son of Saul said to his young armor-bearer, "Come, let's go over to the Philistine outpost on the other side." But he did not tell his father.

Why do think Jonathan chose to attack the Philistine outpost without King Saul's knowledge?

2. Reread *1 Samuel 14:7* "Do all that you have in mind," his armor-bearer said. "Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul."

What does this statement tell us about the relationship between Jonathan and his armor-bearer? Have you ever witnessed a friendship of similar devotion? If so, share about it.

3. Reread what Jonathan said to his friend in *1 Samuel 14:6* "Perhaps the LORD will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the LORD from saving, whether by many or by few."

What does this statement reveal about Jonathan?

4. Why do many friends choose to talk about superficial stuff rather than describing the dynamics of their heart?

5. Reread *1 Samuel 14:13-14* Jonathan climbed up, using his hands and feet, with his armor-bearer right behind him...In that first attack Jonathan and his armor-bearer killed some twenty men in an area of about half an acre.

What do you think this event did to their friendship? Why did it have that effect?

6. What could you do to deepen your relationships with the members of your small group? Why does God often choose to reveal His presence while we are at church ("Congregation")?

Wrapping It Up: Pray for courage. Pray for the courage to initiate conversations that will take your small group to a deeper level relationally.