

## SERMON MESSAGE FOR JUNE 8/9, 2019

Pastor Dennis Keating  
BEAUTIFULLY IMPERFECT  
*You've Got a Friend*  
1 Samuel 18:1-4 (p. 252)

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**THE MAIN LESSON** → If you \_\_\_\_\_ a friend, start \_\_\_\_\_ a friend.

### **Friendship is built by ...**

1. Sharing \_\_\_\_\_. (18:1; 14:6)

**THE INSIGHT** → Friends are \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Expressing \_\_\_\_\_. (18:1, 3)

**THE INSIGHT** → Friends don't let \_\_\_\_\_ overcome their  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Prov. 17:17)

3. Defending \_\_\_\_\_. (19:1-5)

**THE INSIGHT** → A friend always \_\_\_\_\_. (Prov. 16:28)

4. Revealing \_\_\_\_\_. (20:1-3; Prov. 18:24)

5. Giving \_\_\_\_\_.  
(23:16-17; John 15:13; Heb. 13:5)

## FROM JUNE 8/9, 2019 SERMON

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SERMON-BASED LIFE GROUPS

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*Personal preparation:* Read the passage, review your outline, and think through the questions. With your group, watch the video blog together ([www.efcc.org/video-blog](http://www.efcc.org/video-blog)).

### CONNECTING

1. People do tend to be lonely and friendless these days, and it seems they are more so than ever. What are some of the reasons why you think this is?

### GROWING

2. As you look at David and Jonathan's friendship —

a. What encourages you about it? Why?

b. What challenges you about it? Why?

c. What parts of it would you like to emulate in your own friendships? Why?

3. Going back to the "Connecting" question. Do you find yourself falling victim to some of those same reasons for why people don't really have any close friends? How so? And if so, how does this study help you discern some things God would have you do to push back against the tide of loneliness and disconnection that you and others may be feeling?

### SHARING

4. What is one way you can be a better friend this week? Ask the group to pray for you and hold you to your commitment.



For online sermon resources (audios, videos and study notes), scan the QR code with your smart phone or tablet, or visit our web site at [www.efcc.org/sermons](http://www.efcc.org/sermons).

EFCC Open Wi-Fi Password: **John3:16**

**June 8/9, 2019**  
**BEAUTIFULLY IMPERFECT**  
***You've Got a Friend***

1 Sam. 18:1-4, 19:4-5, 20:41, 23:15-16 (p. 252)  
Pastor Dennis Keating

*(For Scripture references and fill-in the blanks)*

*"The most terrible poverty is loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted."* Mother Teresa

**THE MAIN LESSON:** If you **want** a friend, start **being** a friend.

*"I went outside to find a friend but could not find one there. I went outside to be a friend, and friends were everywhere."* Anonymous

***Friendship is built by ...***

1. Sharing **common values**. (18:1; 14:6)

*"The LORD is not restrained to save by many or by few."* 1 Samuel 14:6

**THE INSIGHT:** Friends are **joined at the heart**.

2. Expressing **unselfish love**. (18:1, 3)

**THE INSIGHT:** Friends don't let **circumstances** overcome their **commitment**. (Prov. 17:17)

*"A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."* Proverbs 17:17

3. Defending **verbally**. (19:1-5)

**THE INSIGHT:** A friend always **has your back**. (Prov. 16:28)

*"A perverse man spreads strife, and a slanderer separates intimate friends."* Proverbs 16:28

*"Real friends are those who, when you feel you've made a fool of yourself, don't feel you've done a permanent job."* Anonymous

4. Revealing **honest emotions**. (20:1-3; Prov. 18:24)

*"A friend is someone who understands your past, believes in your future, and accepts you just the way you are."* Anonymous

*"A man of too many friends comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."* Proverbs 18:24

5. Giving **spiritual encouragement**. (23:16-17; John 15:13; Heb. 13:5)

*"A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out."* Walter Winchell

*"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends."* John 15:13

**"I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU."** Hebrews 13:5