

DAVID: A MAN OF PASSION & DESTINY

FRIENDS IN NEED

2 SAMUEL 15; 17:27–29; 19:1–8



The Heart of the Matter

Our recent times with David have been rather dismal and bleak. We've watched him fall into compromise and sin . . . then witnessed his family begin to crumble under the load of sin's consequences. Going from bad to worse, the king must have felt crushed beneath the weight of overwhelming loneliness and guilt. In times like that, a person needs a friend. Not a preacher or a professional counselor. Not a physician or an attorney. Just a friend—someone to be near and listen, to reassure and understand. Coming out of the woodwork were several individuals who surrounded the discouraged monarch with support.



Discovering the Way

1. The Truth about Friends

Friends are essential, not optional; they must be cultivated, not automated; they impact our lives, rather than remain neutral; and they come in many stripes, not just one.

2. The Needs in David's Life (2 Samuel 15)

David struggled with personal, domestic, and political needs in his life at this time, needing friendship in all areas.

3. The People Who Stood Near (2 Samuel 15; 17:27–29; 19:1–8)

Several stood near David in support of their king during this trying time: Ittai, Zadok and Abiathar, Hushai, Shobi, Machir, Barzillai, and the commander of David's army, Joab.



Starting Your Journey

As you consider the importance of friendship in all areas of your life, make a point to befriend someone in your areas of life: in the neighborhood, in your church, and in the workplace.

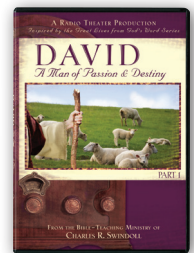


Tools for Digging Deeper



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