



## Week 4 -- Jonathan

### Announcements

- **Dream Team** – Sunday, October 14, 5:00 pm at LCC, GCC and SSC.  
Help get your small group serving together by encouraging those in your group to attend *Dream Team Orientation*.

### Warm-up

Who was your most talented friend when you were in high school? In what areas was he/she talented? What emotions stirred within you when you watched your talented friend excel?

In our culture we usually find people looking out for themselves. Today we are going to learn from the biblical character Jonathan, how to help others achieve their God-given potential when we live with God's big picture perspective.

### Word & Application

**Read 1 Samuel 18:1-4** to get a clear picture of the closeness of the relationship between David and Jonathan.

How do you think our culture would be different if there were more people willing to enter into close friendships like David and Jonathan had?

Jonathan was the son of King Saul; therefore, he was the rightful heir to the throne. However, Jonathan recognized David was God's appointed man to be the next king so he championed David's rise to authority.

What do you think gave Jonathan the ability to support David even though it meant Jonathan would not become the king?

Jonathan saw the big picture, which allowed him to support David as the next king. Jonathan knew God's plan for David to become the next king was the best thing for the country of Israel.

How do you think you would have reacted if you had been in Jonathan's position? Would you have been supportive or would you have tried to get the position of King for yourself? Why?

Since Jonathan was able to see God's big picture he was able to see himself with a healthy and accurate perspective. If you overestimate your value, you may do things just to feed your ego. If you underestimate your value, you may become discouraged and neglect doing the things you are created and called to do.

**Read Romans 12:3.** Do you tend to think too highly or too lowly about yourself? Why do you think it is hard to have an accurate view of who God has created us to be?

We all have strengths and weaknesses. We just need to be honest about our weaknesses, accept how God has designed us and be determined to fulfill the God-given potential given to us.

Not only did Jonathan have a healthy perspective of who he was, but he also saw the great potential in David. When we live with a big picture perspective we can see others from the right perspective and help them fulfill their God-given potential.

**Read 1 Samuel 20:30-31.** Despite all the negative talk about David emanating from Jonathan's Dad, Jonathan never bought into any of the lies. He kept a big-picture perspective and was reminded who God created David to be.

**Read Philippians 2:3.** Why is it hard to keep the right perspective and help others fulfill their God-given potential? What can you do to make sure your motivations remain pure?

**Read 1 Samuel 23:14-17.** Often our personal ambition clouds God's direction for our lives. But Jonathan's grasp of the big picture helped him to understand what God desired. Even though it did not benefit him personally, Jonathan obeyed God. He knew that only when we see what is important will we be willing to do the seemingly unimportant.

Do you live your life with a "big picture perspective" or do you mostly focused on yourself and what you can achieve? How can you begin to support others and help them fulfill their God-given potential?

When we help others, we share in what they achieve. And as we help those God has called us to help, we are actually serving God.

## Prayer

Pray for each person in the group to be able to live their life with the "big picture perspective" so they can help others achieve their God-given purpose. Also, take time to ask for specific prayer requests from those in your small group.