

# Strong in LOVE

## Friendship Built on Love

Do you have a friend or family member that you would do anything for? Seeing them go through a hard time makes you very sad. Maybe you want to do everything you can to help them out or be someone that's there to listen. What do you do when your friend(s) is hurting?

There's a story in the Bible that shows the strong love of a friend. It's about David (Israel's next king) and Jonathon (King Saul's son). King Saul hated David and wanted to kill him because he was jealous of David's success. An unlikely friendship formed between Jonathon (Saul's son) and David. Jonathon **loved** David more than his family and himself. Let's read about David and Jonathon's bond of friendship in **1 Samuel 18:1-4, 19:1-7, 20:1-17 and 42** (Pro-Tip: Divide the passages and read **1 Samuel 18-20** throughout the week).

## Pop Quiz: Jonathon and David's Friendship

- What did Jonathon give David in their covenant/promise of friendship? (*his royal robe, military uniform, and weapons*)
- Who warned David that Saul was planning to kill him? What did Saul promise would not happen to David? (*Jonathon; to not harm David*)
- What promises did Jonathon ask David to keep? (*be kind to his family and to be friends no matter what*)
- Bonus from all of 1 Samuel 18-20: Why didn't Saul let David go home to visit his family? (*he was plotting to kill him*)

"I pray that Christ will live in your hearts because of your faith and that your life will be strong in love and be built on love."

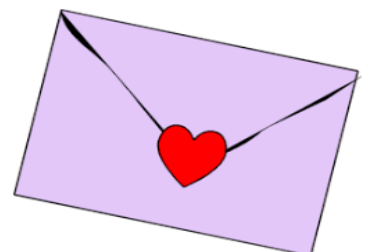
**Ephesians 3:17** (ICB)

## Family Journal

Activity: Acts of Love

### Instructions

- Pull out your family journal that you have been using or find a new journal to start journaling in together.
- Create a list of people that you want to show God's love to. It can be a family member, a friend, a neighbor, or someone that you've just met.
- Write down all of the things or characteristics that *you* love and the things that you think *God* loves about them.
- Pray for the people on your list. Pray for them all throughout the week.
- Make a card(s) of encouragement for your special person/people. Don't forget to give or mail it to them!





## Walk in Love

Jonathon and David's bond of friendship shows how we can love without fear. God honors those who walk in love, so how do we do that?

In **1 Corinthians 13:4-7**, Paul shares his revelation on what walking in love looks like. Read the passage together and then answer the discussion questions below.

### Discussion: Do you look like Love?

- What characteristics of love do you find easy to live out? (*i.e., I find it easy to be kind to others.*)
- What characteristics of love do you find to be more difficult to live out? (*i.e., I find it hard to be patient with others.*)
- Are there any characteristics that you want to become better at, maybe the ones that are hard? In what ways can you practice these? (*i.e., I want to practice being better at not being envious. I can practice this by making a list of the things I am grateful for.*)
- Who is the ultimate example of love? What other stories in the Bible do you see others walking out in love? (**Jesus is the ultimate example. He died so that we can have the Holy Spirit and live with Him forever; i.e., Joseph forgave his brothers because he loved them—Genesis 45:1-15**)

If we want to walk in love, we have to ask the Holy Spirit to help us daily. Pray for patience, kindness, self-control, hope, endurance and a love like Jesus to grow in your hearts!

## Activity: Hopscotch

### Instructions

- Draw (with chalk on the driveway) or set up blank pieces of paper inside to create a hopscotch design (write the numbers 1-10 on the squares or blank papers).
- Find a small object (rock, toy, etc.) and toss into a square with a number.
- Toss the object and hop with one foot across the numbers, skipping the number that the object lands on.
- Pick up the object on the way back from hopping across the numbers.
- Pass the object to the next person so they can have a turn!

### Ask

- Was it difficult to hop with one leg? Did you get tired or feel like you were going to fall down?
- Would it be easier if someone was there to help you balance by holding your hand?
  - Repeat the activity and see if it is easier when there is someone that is guiding you.

### Application

Walking in our own way and strength can be hard. It can make us frustrated or tired when we fail. When we need help God will always be ready to guide us.

Sometimes it's not easy to love someone like Paul describes in 1 Corinthians 13. That's why we need to ask the Holy Spirit for help so that we can walk in love like we are commanded to.

### Prayer




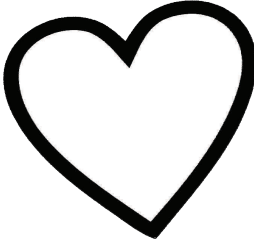
This week, intentionally pray that the Holy Spirit will help everyone in the family to walk in love. Pray before bedtime, in the mornings or during family secret place time.

*“Holy Spirit, help guide us so that we can walk in your love. Open our eyes to see and give us ears to listen to your voice. We want to love others like Jesus. Amen.”*

# Love Word Search

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Find the hidden words.



K Y D S N G E G I P B E E E H  
U P A E M L G A A V E A B O N  
W R T V Q F P R R J A T P W E  
U E I E Z J R B R Z R E O P Z  
U N R I G H T E O U S N E S S  
N E B L B Q P P G F M H C J K  
N S Q E K E R S A V P P R P X  
E J E B C O P T N C M L C X Q  
R N S C V O N E T N X J J T C  
D P D O I E M D E R E F F U S  
Y N K U I O R I J E A L O U S  
R E I T R D J O N F L C G V K  
D R A K F E Z E A G X M K O F  
Z P Y Z D A S R R R L S R A W  
Q T K X B W R E V E N Y Y C N

Is **PATIENT**

Is **KIND**

Is Not **JEALOUS**

Does Not **BRAG**

Is Not **ARROGANT**

Does Not Act **UNBECOMINGLY**

Does Not Seek Its **OWN**

Is Not **PROVOKED**

Does Not Take Into Account A  
Wrong **SUFFERED**

Does Not Rejoice In  
**UNRIGHTEOUSNESS**

**REJOICES** With The Truth

**BEARS** All Things

**BELIEVES** All Things

**HOPES** All Things

**ENDURES** All Things