

**"Since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other,  
and each of us needs all the others."  
-Romans 12:5b**

### **A Biblical Example: David and Jonathon**

After David had finished talking with Saul, he met Jonathan, the king's son. There was an immediate bond of love between them, and they became the **best of friends**. 1 Samuel 18:1

#### **1. A deep relational connection requires COMMITMENT**

And Jonathan made a **special vow** to be David's friend, and he sealed the pact by giving him his robe, tunic, sword, bow, and belt. 1 Samuel 18:3-4

**\*This action is difficult because of our fear and lack of role models**

#### **2. A deep relational connection looks out for OTHERS BEST INTEREST**

Saul now urged his servants and his son Jonathan to assassinate David. But Jonathan, because of his close friendship with David, told him what his father was planning. "Tomorrow morning," he warned him, "you must find a hiding place out in the fields. I'll ask my father to go out there with me, and I'll talk to him about you. Then I'll tell you everything I can find out." 1 Samuel 19:1-3

**\*This action is difficult because of our selfish nature**

#### **3. A deep relational connection offers real HELP...more than information**

I will come out and shoot three arrows to the side of the stone pile as though I were shooting at a target. Then I will send a boy to bring the arrows back. If you hear me tell him, 'They're on this side,' then you will know, as surely as the LORD lives, that all is well, and there is no trouble. But if I tell him, 'Go farther-- the arrows are still ahead of you,' then it will mean that you must leave immediately, for the LORD is sending you away. 1 Samuel 20:20-22

**\*This action is difficult because of our **busy-pace****

#### **4. A deep relational connection withstands personal PERSECUTION**

Saul boiled with rage at Jonathan. "You stupid son of a whore!" he swore at him. "Do you think I don't know that you want David to be king in your place, shaming yourself and your mother? As long as that son of Jesse is alive, you'll **never be king**. Now go and get him so I can kill him!" 1 Samuel 20:30-31

**\*This action is difficult because of our "easy out" mentality**

#### **5. A deep relational connection displays genuine FEELINGS**

As soon as the boy was gone, David came out from where he had been hiding near the stone pile. Then David bowed to Jonathan with his face to the ground. Both of them were in tears as they embraced each other and said good-bye, **especially David**. 1 Samuel 20:41

**\*This action is difficult because we lack relational depth**

### **SO...WHAT MIGHT I DO?**

#### **1. Establish a PICTURE of a stronger together relationship**

#### **2. Develop a PLAN for stronger together relationships**

#### **3. Hang around STRONGER TOGETHER people**

You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. Ephesians 2:19

**One last thought: Am I doing my part in making the body healthy?**

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