Sermon Outline

A. Friends …. Dependable (vs. 1-2):

1. David flees from Saul like a shadow (imperfect – David had no plans to stop running until Saul stop trying to kill him) because Saul tried to kill him three times.
   
a) After witnessing four attempts on his life in one day, David certainly had no reason to doubt Saul’s determination to kill him. Yet to escape the king’s attacks, David would have to abandon the two most significant people in his life, his best friend Jonathan and the wife of his youth, Michal. Even if he were to escape and live, would life be worth living under those circumstances?[1]

2. David came to Jonathan with a specific purpose in mind like a man coming into the temple to bring a sacrifice before God.
3. What David said to Jonathan he did not intend to stop saying. It is implicitly implied that David was reaching out to Jonathan in desperation. David wanted Jonathan to evaluate his behavior in the following manner:
   
a) David ask Jonathan a rhetorical question because David knew that he had not done anything against Saul.
   b) David challenge Jonathan to accountability for his father’s actions against him. David wanted Jonathan to provide justification for Saul’s decision to kill him.
   c) David wanted Jonathan to outline what he did that was depraved or misdeeds against what was expected of him as one of Saul’s key leaders.
   d) David knew his character and walk with God and was confident he did no wrong. This does not mean he was perfect it means that in this situation he had managed his relationship with Saul ethically.
   e) David wanted to know if and how he violates the law as it relates to Saul.

4. A person feeling offended has to be a concrete, objective process with God’s Word as the barometer or gauge. It cannot be based on a person’s likes, dislikes or fears (vs. 30-33).
5. Saul had no valid reason to pursue David with a determined mindset to kill him. There was no justification.
6. Saul was not in pursuit of David to preserve his existence which as king he was suppose to do.
7. After all that David as done for Saul, that Jonathan knew about, and all he did for Israel there is no way Saul can be seeking to execute him.
8. Jonathan claims that Saul has a complete state of mind to talk with Jonathan about all his intentions.
9. Jonathan was convinced that his father made everything clear to him and did not conceal anything from him.
10. Jonathan knew he was very close to his father. He was held in confidence by his father because his father planned to make him king when he dies (vs. 30-34).
11. Even though Jonathan did not agree with David he did not ‘unfriend’ him. David was basically describing Jonathan’s father as evil (vs. 8-9).
B. Friends ….. Trustworthy (vs. 3-4):

1. David ‘pledge allegiance to God through an oath’ that Saul intentionally sought to take his life.
2. David repeated with no plans to stop saying that Saul has sensed that Jonathan has a deep affection for him.
3. Saul knew that Jonathan’s heart was set to provide kindness to David to the point he finds pleasure with him.
4. David said to Jonathan that his father has determined that he does not sense and therefore become aware of his plans to kill David.
5. Saul did not want Jonathan to become intricately aware of his plans because his father knew Jonathan well enough to know it would make him become outraged (vs. 30-34), sorrowful (vs. 41-42), and uncomfortable about what his father’s planned to do.
6. As certain as knowing the Lord lives, especially with His history with the Jews, there is the same creditability to what David is saying.
7. Jonathan made an ethical obligation to put a lot of energy focused on finding the truth and helping David so that he does expose himself to Saul at the New Moon feast.

B. Friends…. They are People of Character (vs. 12-14):

1. Jonathan verbalize with no intention to stop saying what the plan was forward.
2. The Lord depicts God who sustained His covenant because He has all authority and power and is committed to maintain His relationship with His people.
3. God is sovereign and is in control of all that is taking place in all eternity.
4. Jonathan actively seeks to draw David’s attention to the plans he has.
5. Jonathan says that if Saul intends act in a practical and beneficial manner to David then he would let him know.
6. By saying know here Jonathan is saying that he would expose the naked truth.
7. If it seems like justice and therefore good in the sight of Saul to labor and toil at hurting David, Jonathan would let David know, meaning Jonathan would provide to David the whole truth (‘naked truth’).
8. May the one who has all authority and power work with all energy increasing more than is done to David.
9. Jonathan desire is that David is able to move around with the absence of strife between him and Saul.
10. Jonathan has accepted that God has placed his hand on David.
11. Jonathan ask David to protect his family but not himself. It seems to imply that Jonathan knows he must die in order to David to be king.
12. A true friend accepts God’s will for the other person’s life and assist them in accomplishing it.
13. Jonathan desire that God endless places His presence with David as God did with Saul. This means that the same level of success and protection and empowerment his father experienced would be the same for David. This would be a completed state of existence for David.

C. Friends are Loyal (vs. 17, 30-34):

1. Jonathan endless pressed upon David to make a pledge before God because of their relationship that David would not kill his family members.
2. Jonathan truly had an affectionate love (in the pure sense of the word) for David (18:1-4).
3. Jonathan has a ‘vehement inclination of the mind’ to protect and care for David.
4. Whatever is vital to Jonathan living out his life each and every day is how important his love is towards David.
5. When Saul found out that David was not coming to the feast he became highly emotional.
6. Jonathan’s love for David led him to protect him before his father. When his father realizes this his anger became to the point that he fuzzed at Jonathan desiring to punish him for protecting David.

   a) Saul was able to distinguish the good that Jonathan had in his heart towards David. He knew that Jonathan was not going to change his heart from doing what he was determined to do.
   b) Jonathan had decisively made up his mind, able carefully thinking things through, that he was going to protect David.
   c) As long as David goes about doing what is good and vital for the nation of Israel Jonathan would not be prince.
   d) Jonathan’s reign, if David continues to live, would not firmly established so that it is enduring. Jonathan is to allow his father Saul to kill David so that Jonathan’s royal rule of Israel is immovable. Even thought this is true, Saul does not like David.
   e) Saul commands Jonathan to get some soldiers to seek out David so that they can permanently be removed.
   f) Saul wanted someone to kill David, execution style.

7. Jonathan ask his father to justify his actions just like David asked him in verse 1-4.
8. David should only die if he deserves death.
9. Jonathan stood for what is right (vs.12-13) and then let things fall where they must.
10. Jonathan protected David not just because he loved him but also because his father was wrong.

D. Be a Friend and You will Have a Friend (vs. 17, 41-42):

1. David threw himself on Jonathan with no plans to stop. He knew that he was safe with Jonathan because Jonathan did not give him up to his father. David knew how much it cost Jonathan to protect him.
2. David bowed in respect of who Jonathan was despite the fact that David was anointed king and Jonathan accepted him as king.
3. David viewed Jonathan to be above him and a person whose leadership he must honor.
4. They both knew that this was the last time they were going to see each other. As a result they displayed a very strong display of distress and sorrow. David displayed this more than Jonathan.
5. Jonathan bids David peace and that there will be no strife between them.
6. The oath and pledges that they made to each other was based on the reputation and fame of the Lord God.
7. Notice that David did not go into the city as Jonathan did. David was going to remain on the run from Saul while Jonathan was going back to fulfill this role.