

3. Jonathan and David’s relationship reveals that authentic community occurs when the REAL YOU meets REAL NEEDS for the RIGHT REASON in the RIGHT WAY.

“Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor, not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord, rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted in prayer, contributing to the needs of all the saints, practicing hospitality.” Romans 12:9-13 (NAS)

Authentic community is the CORE of Christianity.

“... that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” John 17:21 (NAS)

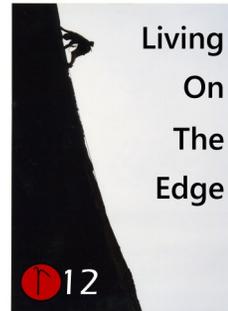
POINT OF APPLICATION

1. Get CONNECTED in a spiritually positive, relational group.
2. Go DEEPER with one or two people in your group.
3. Share and pray about a SIGNIFICANT struggle or fear in your life with a safe person.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Are you more of a friend-pursuer or someone who stumbles into friendships? How does that affect how you make friends?
2. Which of the “7 Essentials” are you best at?
3. Which of the “7 Essentials” do you struggle with the most? Why?
4. What is one need that someone God has placed in your sphere has that you could help address?

Not yet in an Extended Connection Group ... this would be a good week to jump into one. Don’t settle for talking about Authentic Community. Dare to experience it through group life.



DAVID & JONATHAN
Learning To Experience
Authentic Community

1 Samuel 18-20

HOW DO YOU EXPERIENCE AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY?

1. Jonathan and David MODEL how to experience authentic community.

- **7 Essential for Biblical Community—1 Samuel 18-20**
 - ⇒ Be AWARE - God orchestrates circumstances and chemistry (1 Samuel 18:1-2)
 - ⇒ Be INTENTIONAL - We rarely drift into authentic community. (1 Samuel 18:3)
 - ⇒ Be HONEST - Share the last 10% (1 Samuel 19:1-5; cf. Proverb 27:5-6)
 - ⇒ Be AVAILABLE - When Crisis comes, ‘friends’ arrive. (1 Samuel 20:1-4; cf. Proverb 17:17)
 - ⇒ Be LOYAL - Don’t ‘shrink back’ when things ‘heat up” (1 Samuel 20:5-17; cf. Proverb 17:17)
 - ⇒ Be VULNERABLE - Refuse to let fear or pride limit your relationships (1 Samuel 20:40-41)
 - ⇒ Be SPIRITUAL - Help them be an r12 Christian every-day in every way (1 Samuel 23:15-18; Proverb 27:17)

2. David and Jonathan’s COVENANT with God was the basis for their devotion to one another.

John 15:9-13