

# The Gift of True Friendship

## PODS Small Group Discussion Questions

1. Consider the relationship between Jonathan and David as a biblical model of friendship. What qualities made their friendship transformative, and how can we apply those qualities to our current relationships?
2. How do societal perceptions of friendship, as influenced by social media and popular culture, differ from the biblical view? What are some practical steps we can take to cultivate deeper, more meaningful friendships?
3. Reflecting on the idea that a true friend "hurts when you hurt," how can we cultivate empathy and support within our friendships? What are ways to actively show we care when a friend is struggling?
4. Proverbs 27 teaches us that godly friends are willing to speak difficult truths. Why is it essential to deliver these truths to our friends, and what approach should we take to ensure our message is received in love?
5. In what ways does the concept of "Iron sharpens iron" from Proverbs 27:17 challenge or inspire your view of helping friends become more like Christ?
6. How can we become more intentional about seeking out friends who exhibit godly characteristics, and what steps can we take to distance ourselves from negative influences?
7. How can we apply the principles of forgiveness discussed in Matthew 18 when conflicts arise in our friendships? What role does vulnerability play in healing those relationships?