

LOVE

Overcome Week Leader Guide

Overcome: A time for student leaders to encourage their peers to overcome their fears of sharing the Gospel.



PRE MEETING INSTRUCTIONS:

- Select one student to lead this month's Overcome Week
- Post to social media and text friends inviting them to First Priority Club

INTRODUCTION: 3 minutes

Welcome Students, Prayer and Introduction

- **Overcome Week Host:** "Welcome to First Priority! This month we are talking about one fruit of the Spirit: **LOVE**. We will see how God's love helps us to overcome selfishness."
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Introduce Student Leading Discussion:** Today, my friend, _____, is going to share about a character in the Bible who found it better to overcome hate and choose love!

GROUP TIME: Love is Not Selfish (20 minutes)

Speaker Suggestion: Let's read about two best friends who really understood what love is.

"After David had finished talking with Saul, he met Jonathan, the king's son. There was an immediate bond between them, for Jonathan loved David.... and Jonathan made a solemn pact with David, because he loved him as he loved himself."

(1 Samuel 18:1, 3 NLT)

What is going on here? Here is the basic run-down. Jonathan was the son of the king at the time, Saul. So, Jonathan was a *prince*.


David, on the other hand, was not in the same privileged position. He was an average guy. But God said that *David would be king*.

Here's the deal: Jonathan could have chosen to be bitter about the fact that God basically gave leadership of the kingdom he was supposed to inherit to his best friend, of all people. He could have chosen to feel betrayed. He could have chosen to

HATE David. BUT, Jonathan and David cared more about each other than they cared about themselves. They wanted each other to succeed.

Have you ever cared about your friend's grade on a test more than your own grade? This kind of love is strong. Jonathan had a deep kind of love like this.

We can learn from Jonathan's love in that he was committed to David, he was more caring about David than he was himself, and he wanted David to succeed.



THERE IS NO
greater love
THAN TO LAY
DOWN ONE'S LIFE
FOR ONE'S FRIENDS.

JOHN 15:13 (NLT)

"There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13 NLT)

Do we sacrifice our lives for our friends, today? Does our love for God cause us to love one another? What is your plan for sharing love with others like Jonathan did with David?



APPLY IT:

Discussion Option 1: Talk about what is easy to love (sports, movies, things that make you feel good) vs what is difficult to love (sacrificial love, taking the trash out, obedience to parents). Point out the difference between loving someone *selfishly* vs loving someone *sacrificially*. How did Jonathan do this for David (1 Sam 18:1-4, 1 Samuel 20, if you had more time)

Discussion Option 2: Think of an example in a movie, song, or play where love is *fake* (think of examples where it was filled with hatred, or self-love, or *manipulation*). Now, how does this contrast with Jonathan's love for David? Look at examples in the text where Jonathan *gave up* things for David, rather than *took*.

Discussion Option 3: Think of how many actions you do for a friend that are selfish. Have fun with it. Now, think of how many actions you can take that are selfless. How is sharing the gospel *selfless* rather than selfish?

ACTION CHALLENGES:

- **Group Challenge:** Post your plan, in some detail, for acting *selflessly* in loving others, like Jonathan. Make it fun! Post this in a group message or on social media. Have **#accountability** to accomplish your goals! Another idea is to try to show love and care to your teacher. Remember, they work hard to serve and teach you *day in and day out*. Even though no teacher is perfect, we are called to honor those in authority over us (Romans 13). Think of ways you can creatively love your teacher – and do it! Post to social media. Have fun!
- **Invite Challenge:** Text 5 friends and invite them to First Priority and ask them if you can pray for them this week about anything.
- **Prayer Challenge:** Lastly, get into groups of three or four and spread out. Take 2 minutes pray as a group for those you will be texting in the Invite Challenge.

WRAP UP: 2 minutes

- Share any FP Club announcements including that next week's meeting is Prepare Week.

