

UP WORDS

I Samuel 19:1-7

**Jonathan provides an excellent example
of building up what others are tearing down.**

I. THE ATTITUDES (1)

A. SAUL'S CRUELTY (I Sam. 18)

1. Envious (18:6-9) - Jealous over David's popularity
2. Outrageous (18:10-11) - Throwing a spear at David
3. Demoralizing (18:12-13) - Demoting David
4. Heartless (18:17-19) - Taking David's fiancé away from him
5. Scheming (18:20-21) - Giving David a wife that would be a snare to him
6. Calloused (18:17, 25) - Plotting dangerous missions that would get David killed
7. Murderous (19:1) - Putting out a contract on David's head

B. JONATHAN'S KINDNESS (I Sam. 19:1)

- Delighting in David

C. THE CONTRAST – Prov. 12:18

There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword,
But the tongue of the wise brings healing.

II. JONATHAN'S ACTIONS (2-7)

- Romans 14:19 "So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another."

A. UP WORDS ARE HELPFUL (2-3)

- Prov. 15:23b "... a word *spoken* in due season, how good *it is!* (NKJV)
" ... how delightful is a timely word! (NASV)

1. Warning David of imminent danger
- Prov. 17:17 A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.
2. Being honest with David about his father's intentions
3. Giving counsel or advise for David to consider for his safety
4. Mediating on behalf of his friend (3)
- Prov. 3:27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do *it*.
5. Promising to observe and tell David what he finds

B. UP WORDS SET THE TONE (4a)

- Jonathan spoke well of David and thereby took control of the direction for the conversation.

C. UP WORDS ARE THOUGHTFUL

- Prov. 15:28 The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.

- Prov. 25:11 *Like* apples of gold in settings of silver is a word spoken in right circumstances.

D. UP WORDS ARE FAVORABLE (4-5)

- Jonathan encouraged his father to consider David's service, innocence, works, nobility usefulness and contributions.

E. UP WORDS ARE RESPECTFUL (4)

- Prov. 15:1 A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

F. UP WORDS ARE SKILLFUL (5)

- Prov. 25:12 *Like* an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold is a wise reprovee to a listening ear.

- Matt. 10:16 Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves.

G. UP WORDS ARE FORCEFUL (5)

- The question Jonathan asks indicates that Saul's actions are sinful and unjustifiable

H. UP WORDS ARE INFLUENTIAL (6)

- Prov. 25:15 By forbearance a ruler may be persuaded, and a soft tongue breaks the bone.

I. UP WORDS ARE HEARTWARMING (7)

- Prov. 12:25 Anxiety in a man's heart weighs it down, but a good word makes it glad.

J. UP WORDS ARE PEACEABLE (7)

- Matt. 5:9 Blessed *are* the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

CONCLUSION:

Consider the result of Jonathan's up words:

1. Up words encouraged David when he was down – someone stood up for him!
2. Up words prevented Saul from impulsive sin ...
3. Up words benefitted Israel, for their future king was spared.
4. Up words please God – for they demonstrated the godly character of Jonathan.

Do your words build up or tear down?

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