

## The Contrasts of Faiths

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- 1) Faith like Jonathan's takes initiative and is not content waiting around...BUT faithlessness like Saul's is content in complacency and apparent safety (1—3)
  
- 2) Faith like Jonathan's trusts in God's strength and ability...BUT faithlessness like Saul's is focused on man's ability (4—15)
  
- 3) Faith like Jonathan's is decisive and unwavering...but faithlessness like Saul's is inconsistent and unstable (16—22)
  
- 4) Faith like Jonathan's is focused on the needs of people and thanksgiving towards God...BUT faithlessness like Saul's is focused on self and self-vindication (23—35)
  
- 5) Faith like Jonathan's causes one to be practically God-fearing...BUT faithlessness like Saul's is stubbornly religious, superstitious and lacks a genuine relationship with the Lord (36—52)

## GBC Application Questions

Grace Bible Church desires that you respond to this sermon by believing the gospel, obeying the Savior, and discipling the world for the glory of God. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions and praying through the issues will help you further meditate upon God's Word in order to see how this can be done.

1. Look at 1 Samuel 14:6 and think through Jonathan's statement. What do you notice about his statement? What impresses you about it? Where in your life do you need to grow in order to genuinely speak the same statement?

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2. Would you call Jonathan's faith 'a bold faith'? Why or why not? If you would call it bold, do you think God is pleased with that kind of faith? If so, would that be how you would describe your own faith? Please explain.

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3. In what areas of your life would you say that you are more like Saul, waiting for someone else to do something before you will respond? How can you practically stretch and exercise your faith proactively instead of being reactive in life?

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4. Jonathan certainly could have gotten frustrated with his father for a number of reasons, but he doesn't appear to be that 'type of person.' How do you think Jonathan was content in playing 'second fiddle' to his dad, even though he appeared to be doing more of the work than his father and yet his father took the credit? What does 'genuine faith' teach us about our position and responsibility? How can we possess Jonathan's attitude in the church?

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5. In 1 Samuel 14:24, Saul makes an oath, what do you think of the oath that he has made? Do you think Saul's oath was a selfish oath or a selfless oath? What is Jonathan's response to his father's oath? What does this episode in Saul's life teach us?

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6. Take a moment and evaluate your own faith (that is a biblical command, see 2 Cor 13:5). Where has God, by his grace, strengthened your faith? Where do you still need to grow? How can you practically strengthen your faith where it is weak?

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