

## Helping Others Be Great

### Ready:

“There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:13

### Set

In the 90’s I was a huge Chicago Bulls fan--everyone was. We were watching the greatest player in the history of the game, Michael Jordan, make history. He was the leader in all aspects of the game; a 10-time scoring champ, 5-time MVP, and a 6-time NBA Champion. Although I loved MJ, my favorite player was the point guard, BJ Armstrong. He wasn’t regarded as the star of the team, but he nevertheless helped his teammates achieve success.

Jonathan was the son of King Saul and the rightful heir to be the next King of Israel. However, God hadn’t chosen him; He chose Jonathan’s best friend David. Instead of feeling jealous or robbed of the throne, Jonathan was willing to come alongside David and help him achieve greatness and success. He had many opportunities to turn David over to his father, but he didn’t. Instead, Jonathan encouraged David to lead with trust and faith in his heart. In 1 Samuel, we see how Jonathan encourages and empowers him to do just that:

*“Jonathan went to find David and encourage him to stay strong in his faith in God. ‘Don’t be afraid. My father will never find you! You are going to be the next King of Israel and I will be next to you, as my father Saul is well aware.’” 1 Samuel 23:16*

Whether it is because of a virus that ends our season or an injury that keeps us from playing, we can all achieve success. Through Jonathan’s example, we can learn three important lessons:

1. He practiced humility; it wasn’t about him.
2. He accepted where God had him.
3. He was an encourager and empowered his “teammate.”

It’s the assist that never gets noticed and the block that never gets the credit, but just like God saw Jonathan, God sees you helping your teammates be great too! How can you help your teammate through struggle today?

### Go

1. Who has been a Jonathan teammate to you, willing to come alongside you and encourage you?
2. Which of the above qualities do you need to work on to be a great teammate?

### Workout

1 Peter 4:10; Philippians 2:3

### **Overtime**

“Lord, help me be the best teammate by using my gifts to encourage my teammates in theirs. Amen.”

### **Bible Reference:**

John 15:13

1 Peter 4:10

Philippians 2:3



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