

A 7x4 grid of the word "WEIRD" in a stylized, blocky font. The letters are composed of multiple parallel lines in blue and green. The "W" is on the far left of each row, "E" is the second letter, "I" is the third, "R" is the fourth, and "D" is the fifth. The "E" in the first row is partially cut off on the right. The "R" in the first row is also partially cut off on the right. The "D" in the first row is also partially cut off on the right. The "E" in the second row is also partially cut off on the right. The "R" in the second row is also partially cut off on the right. The "D" in the second row is also partially cut off on the right. The "E" in the third row is also partially cut off on the right. The "R" in the third row is also partially cut off on the right. The "D" in the third row is also partially cut off on the right. The "E" in the fourth row is also partially cut off on the right. The "R" in the fourth row is also partially cut off on the right. The "D" in the fourth row is also partially cut off on the right. The "E" in the fifth row is also partially cut off on the right. The "R" in the fifth row is also partially cut off on the right. The "D" in the fifth row is also partially cut off on the right. The "E" in the sixth row is also partially cut off on the right. The "R" in the sixth row is also partially cut off on the right. The "D" in the sixth row is also partially cut off on the right. The "E" in the seventh row is also partially cut off on the right. The "R" in the seventh row is also partially cut off on the right. The "D" in the seventh row is also partially cut off on the right.

STRANGE BUT TRUE STORIES IN THE BIBLE

DEEP FRIENDSHIP

1 SAMUEL 18:1 - 4

“I grieve for you, Jonathan, my brother. You were such a friend to me. Your love for me was more wondrous than the love of women.”

2 Samuel 1:26 CSB

The Bible explicitly prohibits same-sex sexual relationships.

**Leviticus 18:22, 20:13, Romans 1:26-27,
1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 1 Timothy 1:9-10**

**The Bible is not shy about addressing
David's sin.**

2 Samuel 11-12

“I grieve for you, Jonathan, my brother. You were such a friend to me. Your love for me was more wondrous than the love of women.”

2 Samuel 1:26 CSB

When David had finished speaking with Saul, Jonathan was bound to David in close friendship, and loved him as much as he loved himself. Saul kept David with him from that day on and did not let him return to his father's house. Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as much as himself.

1 Samuel 18:1–3 CSB

Cheapening our sense of deep relationship:

Shrinks our vision of friendship

Isolates people

**Makes romance carry weight it was never
meant to bear.**

Four keys to deep biblical friendship:

1. Commitment

When David had finished speaking with Saul, Jonathan was bound to David in close friendship, and loved him as much as he loved himself. Saul kept David with him from that day on and did not let him return to his father's house. Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as much as himself.

1 Samuel 18:1–3 CSB

When the servant had gone, David got up from the south side of the stone Ezel, fell facedown to the ground, and paid homage three times. Then he and Jonathan kissed each other and wept with each other, though David wept more. Jonathan then said to David, “Go in the assurance the two of us pledged in the name of the LORD when we said, ‘The LORD will be a witness between you and me and between my offspring and your offspring forever.’” Then David left, and Jonathan went into the city.

1 Samuel 20:41–42 CSB

Jonathan then said to David, “Go in the assurance the two of us pledged in the name of the LORD when we said, ‘The LORD will be a witness between you and me and between my offspring and your offspring forever.’” Then David left, and Jonathan went into the city.

1 Samuel 20:42 CSB

Four keys to deep biblical friendship:

2. Faithfulness

David was in the Wilderness of Ziph in Horesh when he saw that Saul had come out to take his life. Then Saul's son Jonathan came to David in Horesh and encouraged him in his faith in God, saying, "Don't be afraid, for my father Saul will never lay a hand on you. You yourself will be king over Israel, and I'll be your second-in-command. Even my father Saul knows it is true." Then the two of them made a covenant in the LORD's presence. Afterward, David remained in Horesh, while Jonathan went home."

1 Samuel 23:15-18 CSB

Then Saul's son Jonathan came to David in Horesh and encouraged him in his faith in God, saying, “Don't be afraid, for my father Saul will never lay a hand on you. You yourself will be king over Israel, and I'll be your second-in-command. Even my father Saul knows it is true.”

1 Samuel 23:16-17 CSB

Four keys to deep biblical friendship:

3. Encouragement

Then Jonathan removed the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his military tunic, his sword, his bow, and his belt.

1 Samuel 18:4 CSB

Four keys to deep biblical friendship:

4. Sacrifice

Four keys to deep biblical friendship:

Commitment

Faithfulness

Encouragement

Sacrifice

“No one has greater love than this: to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants anymore, because a servant doesn’t know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have heard from my Father.”

John 15:13-15 CSB