

Connect timeless truths with today's news.

BASKETBALL'S BEST TEAMMATE

Recently the NBA player DeAndre Jordan—a towering center for the New Orleans Pelicans—was awarded the Twyman-Stokes Teammate of the Year award. Jordan happens to be a Christian, and he has been rather open about his faith in the past. His latest award is given to a player who exhibits selflessness, both on and off the court. This award for being an exceptional teammate pays tribute to two teammates from the 1950s, Jack Twyman and Maurice Stokes. When Stokes was paralyzed, his former teammate, Twyman, became his legal guardian and lifelong advocate.

AN ANOINTED KING'S BEST ALLY

Fresh off his victory over Goliath, David presents himself to King Saul and the crown prince, Jonathan. Whereas Saul is trying to control David, Jonathan makes an alliance with him. Jonathan gives David gifts that treat him like a prince. Jonathan stands up to his father on behalf of David. Jonathan and David part as friends, vowing to remain loyal to the families of one another forever. Later when Jonathan is killed in battle alongside King Saul, David memorializes these men in song and praises his fallen friend. David later shows kindness to Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth.

1. What makes the best teammate in your book (could be in a game, at work, or in business)?
2. How do you think that Jonathan came to accept that David was God's choice of king?
3. When have you needed to step aside and to let another person lead?

Additional Resources

Any videos or web materials are for your personal use. If you play any media files in class, be sure to have the necessary rights to do so.

Playlists

[Contemporary Worship Weekly](#)

[Echoes Worship Weekly](#) (featuring African-American music artists)

[Traditional Worship Weekly](#)

Study Resources

Commentary: [Roger Nam's "Commentary on 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27"](#)

Article: [Tim Mackie on "David: What's the Big Deal?"](#)

Article: [Blair Parke's "Who Is Mephibosheth and What Does His Life Teach Us about Unexpected Blessings?"](#)

www.standardlesson.com/category/in-the-world

Copyright © 2026 by Standard Publishing, an imprint of David C Cook, a ministry of Cook Media Global.

Permission is granted to reproduce this page for ministry purposes only—not for resale.