4 October 2015: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

Topic: A True Friend!

Scripture Text: 1 Samuel 18:1-4

1. Our definition of a true friend must come from the Bible. We can learn from the life of Jesus Christ who is truly a Friend of sinners. For believers, the Lord Jesus Christ ought to be our Best Friend.

- 2. In 1 Sam 18, we learn the marks of a true friend from the lives of David and Jonathan. When Jonathan died, David said in 2 Sam 1:26 that his love for David surpasses the love of a woman. It was a true biblical love between David and Jonathan.
- 3. The first mark is a loving friendship (v.1). We note that Jonathan is about 28 years older than David and yet there is no generation gap between them. The basis of their friendship is their love for Jesus and bonded together by the love of Christ. True friendship is not based on externals with mutual benefits. It is sincere and sacrificial to each other.
- 4. The second mark is a devoted and committed friendship (v.3). Jonathan committed to David with a covenant. He knew his father king Saul is not spiritual and David is chosen by God to be the next king of Israel. Jonathan was committed to help David to be the king.
- 5. The third mark is a sacrificial friendship (v.4). Jonathan gave of his royal robe to David and also his inner garment and sword. He was willing to give up his place for the throne to David to do the will of God for David. True friendship will always help a person to fulfill God's will.