

# **FRIENDSHIP**

## **The Risks & Rewards**



*He who walks with wise men will be wise,  
but the companion of fools will be destroyed.*

*Proverbs 13:20*

# THE RISKS & REWARDS OF FRIENDSHIP

## Proverbs 13:20

\_\_\_\_\_ friends will \_\_\_\_\_ you.

\_\_\_\_\_ friends will \_\_\_\_\_ you.

### Avoid these people.

1. Proverbs 24:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Proverbs 20:19 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Proverbs 22:24-25 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Proverbs 23:20-21 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Proverbs 29:24 \_\_\_\_\_

6. Proverbs 24:21-22 \_\_\_\_\_

### Embrace wise friends.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Iron sharpens  
iron, so one  
man sharpens  
another.”**

**Proverbs 27:17**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Can you be a close friend with someone who has different values from you?
2. What are the risks of developing close friendships?
3. What are the rewards of developing close friendships?
4. What qualities made Jonathan a wise friend to David?
5. How should you respond to a friend who is pressuring you to do something wrong?

**“Do not be deceived: bad company  
corrupts good morals.”**

**1 Corinthians 15:33**

# HOW TO BUILD A FRIENDSHIP

## John 15:12-17

Follow the example of the \_\_\_\_\_.

**“This is My  
commandment,  
that you love  
one another,  
just as I have  
loved you.  
Greater love  
has no one than  
this, that one  
lay down his  
life for his  
friends.”**

**Jesus  
John 15:12-13**

1. Jesus' friendship is

\_\_\_\_\_.

2. Jesus' friendship is

\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Jesus' friendship is

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. Jesus' friendship is

\_\_\_\_\_.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What friend has influenced you to be more like Christ?
2. Have you had a friend who encouraged you during a difficult time? What did they say or do to help?
3. What are the differences between a friend focused on *getting* and a friend focused on *giving*?
4. How can you reach out to someone who needs a friend?
5. How can you intentionally strengthen your friend's faith in God?

**“A man of too many friends comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”**

**Proverbs 18:24**

# **HOW TO DESTROY A FRIENDSHIP**

## **1 Samuel 16-19**

1. Make sure your friendship is based on what the \_\_\_\_\_ person can do for \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Be** \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Do all you can to keep the person as your \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Be** \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Keep a firm grasp on what is \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ it against all intrusions.  
**Be** \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Let your irritations \_\_\_\_\_ instead of discussing them.  
**Be** \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Avoid the person who \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ you.  
**Be** \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Focus so much on what the other person has that you will do \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Be** \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Believe that your \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Be** \_\_\_\_\_.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does your relationship with God influence your relationships with others?
2. How will holding onto grudges affect your friendships?
3. What should you do if your friend sins against you?
4. What should you do if you've sinned against your friend?
5. Is it ever right to forgive a person but choose not to continue a close friendship?

**“A friend  
loves at all  
times, and a  
brother is  
born for  
adversity.”**

**Proverbs  
17:17**

## **HOW TO RESCUE A FRIEND**

### **2 Samuel 12:1-15**

1. Get the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Consider the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Prepare your \_\_\_\_\_ carefully.
4. Pray for \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Point to \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Affirm God's \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Affirm your \_\_\_\_\_.

Remember...

- ✓ You cannot control another's \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ Forgiveness restores \_\_\_\_\_  
with God, but it doesn't remove the  
\_\_\_\_\_ of sin.



## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Why is it difficult to confront a friend who is sinning?
2. What are some warning signs that a friend is drifting away from the Lord?
3. Have you ever been confronted by a caring friend? How did it go? What have you learned from that experience?
4. What should you do if your friend refuses to turn from sin?
5. Is it ever wise to get others involved when trying to rescue a friend in spiritual danger? Why or why not?

**“Faithful are the wounds of a friend,  
but deceitful are the kisses of an  
enemy.” Proverbs 27:6**







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