

True Friendship

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHOOSING YOUR FRIENDS WISELY

The friends that you choose are so very important!

Why it is so Important that You Choose Friends Wisely

- ♥ The _____ of human friendship is to draw you closer to _____.
Eccl. 4:9–10
- ♥ Often the Lord will wait to bring human friends or will take them away until you have first made _____ your best friend and have made _____ your closest human friends.
- ♥ Your friends amazingly impact who you _____ and _____ — “*Who you spend time with you _____ like.*” Prov. 27:17, 1 Cor. 15:33

How to Choose Your Friends Wisely

- ♥ Realize that there are different _____ of friendship:
- _____ - _____ - _____
- ♥ There are 3 _____ of friendship that are keys to your spiritual growth:
- _____ - _____ - _____
- ♥ Choose friends that will _____ you in your walk with the Lord.
1 Sam. 23:16, Mal. 3:16
- ♥ Seek out _____ friendships, not just _____ of friends. Prov. 18:24
- ♥ Look on the _____. 1 Sam. 16:7
- ♥ Make sure that Jesus is the _____ of your friendships. 1 Cor. 3:11
- ♥ The Lord’s friends should be _____ friends. Jn. 15:14
- ♥ Seek your _____ advice and approval of your friendships. Prov. 1:8
- ♥ _____ your friendships and _____ important questions to see if they are relationships you should have. Who are my closest friends? Are they who I would like to become like and who would please Jesus? Do they encourage me in

what is right? Is this friendship pushing me closer to the Lord, or drawing me further from Him?

- ♥ _____ the Lord to bring and help you choose the right friends. He will! 1 Jn. 5:14
- ♥ As you choose your friends, _____ that you should not have so many that you do not have time to develop close _____ with any of them. Even more importantly, don't allow them to take you away from your time with the Lord or your family!

Personal Notes:

MAKING YOUR FAMILY YOUR CLOSEST HUMAN FRIENDS

Your family should be your closest human friends!

Why you should have your Family as your Closest Human Friends:

- ♥ God gave them to you for your _____ . Jer. 29:11
- ♥ God will use them to _____ you into His character and _____ you for all that He has for your life.
- ♥ You have them _____.
- ♥ They are your _____ through thick and thin. Prov. 17:17
- ♥ They are your #1 _____ . Acts 1:8
- ♥ _____ you have amazing potential and can be an incredible witness for the Lord.

Your Parents:

- ♥ If you do not have a mom, or a dad, the Lord will _____ that spot, if you allow Him. Ps. 68:5
- ♥ Dad — Your dad is meant to be your spiritual _____ and _____.
- ♥ Mom — Your mom should be your best _____ and the one you look to for “girl advice.”
- ♥ It is vital that you have a close, _____ relationship with your parents.
- ♥ They are so _____, want your _____ and _____ you more than any other human can. Prov. 6:20–23
- ♥ You are commanded to _____ and honor them. Eph. 6:1–3
- ♥ They are the _____ human friends you could have.

Your Siblings:

- ♥ Your siblings should be your _____ chums and you will find that they really can be!
- ♥ God gave you _____ who He knew you needed: personality, age, and number.
- ♥ You have an amazing _____ and _____ to impact their lives.

How to Make your Family your Closest Human Friends:

- ♥ _____ the Lord to help you!
- ♥ Give them first _____ over all friends outside your family.

♥ _____ in their lives: time, possessions, and love. Matt. 6:21

♥ Do all you can to live in _____ with them. Ps. 133:1

Parents:

♥ Share your _____ with them and tell them _____.

♥ _____ to them with your goals, questions, and struggles so that they can _____ for you, give you advice, and support you.

♥ Do special _____ for them. Let them know how much you _____ them!

♥ _____ all you _____ to support, encourage, and honor them.

Siblings:

♥ Seek to be a good _____.

♥ Do _____ things with them.

♥ _____ them in the Lord, and instill in them a _____ for their lives.

♥ _____ loving them and making an _____ in the relationship, no matter what! Rom.12:18

Personal Notes:

HOW TO BE THE BEST FRIEND YOU CAN BE

- ♥ Have _____ as your best Friend. Mk. 12:30
- ♥ Seek with all that you are to become as much _____ Jesus as you can. Then you will be as good a friend as they come! Jn. 15:13
- ♥ _____ is Jesus like? _____
- ♥ Make sure that other areas of friendship are in order:
1. _____, 2. _____, 3. _____.
- ♥ Make your friends feel truly _____ by you and the Lord. Jer. 31:3
- ♥ View each friendship as a _____.
- ♥ Seek to _____ your friends in the Lord and in doing what is right. Prov. 27:17
- ♥ _____ in their lives and seek to _____ quality relationships. (See ideas in handbook.)
- ♥ Put your friends and their interests _____ your own. Take _____ in them and what interests them. Rom. 12:10
- ♥ Hold them _____!
- ♥ Ask for _____ when you hurt your friends and _____ them when they hurt you. Eph. 4:32, Col. 3:13
- ♥ Stick to your _____ no matter the cost. The most important thing is that you are pleasing the Lord!
- ♥ Remember that relationships take _____ to build and investment to maintain.
- ♥ _____ yourself with some important questions: Am I being the kind of friend that Jesus would be? Am I pointing my friends to Jesus, or to myself? What things do I admire in my friends' lives that are like Jesus? Do I have these qualities? What are areas the Lord wants me to accept His grace to improve?
- ♥ Think about how the Lord would have people to _____ of you as a friend. Prov. 14:15
- ♥ _____ the Lord to make you into, and give you the grace to be, the kind of friend He wants you to be!

Personal Notes:

THE HEART OF FRIENDSHIP

- ♥ True friendship is made up of the _____ that Jesus had for you.
 - ♥ Jesus gave you the perfect _____ of true love. Jn. 13:15, 1 Cor. 13:4–8
 - ♥ The more you come to know the Lord and become like Him, the more you will come to know what _____ truly is and _____ it in your life. 1 Jn. 4:7–8
 - ♥ In light of this great love, He calls you to love _____. 1 Jn. 4:11
 - ♥ When the Lord pours His love _____ you, then friendships will be impacted and lives will be changed for eternity!
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As you come to know Jesus, taste His love, and see all that He has done for you, your heart's response should be to desire to love Him with all that you are, share His love with others, and live your life totally for Him!

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Matthew 22:37–40

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Personal Notes: