

What Does Wisdom Say? Part 2 Friendstruction

April 6, 2003

A Friend - A person who is attached and committed to another through affection, trust, sacrifice, and goodwill.
FRIEND FACTS
• Good friends are hard to find proclaim each his own goodness , but who can find a faithful man?
Therefore, look <u>carefully</u> .
• We all <u>need</u> <u>friends.</u> Eccl 4:9-10 Two are better than <u>one</u> , because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his <u>companion</u> . But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up
Therefore, do not isolate yourself.
• Choose friends <u>carefully</u> . Prov 12:26 The righteous should choose his friends <u>carefully</u> , for the way of the wicked leads them <u>astray</u> .
Therefore, be <u>picky</u>
• Bad friends will <u>corrupt</u> you. Prov 13:20 He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed.
Therefore, <u>upscale</u> .
WISE FRIENDSTRUCTION
1. Good friends are <u>challenging</u> . Prov 27:17 As iron <u>sharpens</u> iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend

True friends will bring out <u>your best</u> and help sharpen your skills, your faith, your spiritual and natural gifts, etc.
Therefore, get <u>accountability</u>
2. Good friends are honest . True friendships can hurt . Prov 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.
It is a true friend's <u>duty</u> to be truthful, even if it <u>hurts</u> . It is important and <u>biblical</u> to speak the truth in <u>love</u> . Eph 4:15-16
Therefore, avoid "yes" men.
3. Good friends are <u>faithful</u> , especially in hard times. Prov 17:17 A friend loves at <u>all</u> times, and a brother is born for <u>adversity</u> .
Therefore, be <u>faithful</u> .
4. Good friends are <u>friendly</u> . Prov 18:24 A man who has friends must himself be <u>friendly</u> , but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.
Therefore, put <u>effort</u> into your relationships.
JESUS WAS THE GREATEST FRIEND. John 15:12-16
Jesus is friendly - He laid down his life for us. vs 13
Jesus is challenging - He demands obedience. vs 14
Jesus is faithful - He continues to guide us. vs 15
ONCE YOU CHOOSE YOUR FRIENDS, YOU ALSO IDENTIFY YOUR ENEMIES. James 4:3-5 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.
CHOOSE THIS DAY THE ULTIMATE FRIEND