



Friendships Worth Fighting For

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You don't need a lot of friends in life; you just need a few _____!

How to build and maintain friendships worth fighting for

• _____ friendships as a gift from God

The God-model:

- James 4:8 – God desires to be _____ with you.
- Exodus 33:11 – God wants to be in _____ with you.
- 2 Chronicles 20:7 – You can be a _____ of God.

The Jesus-model:

- Mark 6:30-44 – Jesus and His friends served _____ at once.
- Matthew 19:11 – Jesus is a friend to _____.
- John 15:12-15 – Jesus calls _____ friends.

Without guidance, people fall, but with many counselors there is deliverance.
Proverbs 11:14

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a difficult time.
Proverbs 17:17

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17

Do I honor, nourish and value my friendships as a gift from God?

• _____ unhealthy friendships quickly

- Relationships often include both _____ and _____.
- Time spent with friends can be a _____ or _____.
- Some relationships are _____ and _____.

Do not be deceived; bad company corrupts good morals. 1 Corinthians 15:33
There are 'friends' who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24

A contrary man spreads conflict, and a gossip separates friends.
Proverbs 16:28

Am I clinging to unhealthy relationships that are causing me harm?

• _____ your friends wisely

"The next best thing to being wise oneself is to live in a circle of those who are." C.S. Lewis

- Godly people can lead me on the _____.
- Sinful people can lead you down the _____.

A righteous man is careful in dealing with his neighbor, but the ways of wicked men lead them astray. Proverbs 12:26

The one who walks in the ways of the wise will become wise, but a companion of fools will suffer harm. Proverbs 13:20

Escape quickly from the company of fools; they're a waste of your time, a waste of your words. Proverbs 14:7

Are my friendships leading me toward or away from God?

(Strengthen) your relationships intentionally

Godly truth to show you how to:

- Treat your friends as you want to be _____. – Luke 6:31
- Seek to _____ others as often as you can.
– Ephesians 4:29-32
- Outdo one another in showing _____. – Romans 12:10
- Be willing to _____ one another. – Colossians 3:12-14
- _____ one another knowing that love is from God – 1 John 4:7
- Strengthen the faith of your friends – Romans 1:11-12

Are my friendships stronger because of my intentional efforts?

Memory Verse

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.
John 15:12

Next Steps

- I will value, identify, choose and strengthen my friendships based on God's Word.
- I will evaluate my friendships and surrender them to the Lord.
- I will lead or host an Emmanuel Connection Group this semester to encourage healthy relationships.