



What Is A Friend?

FAMILY & FRIENDS SUNDAY

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

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What is a Friend?

Proverbs 17:17

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

Proverbs 18:24

A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

What is a Friend?

Genesis 9:24

So Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him. 25 Then he said: "Cursed be Canaan; A servant of servants He shall be to his brethren."

What is a Friend?

Genesis 9:1

So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth."

What is a Friend?

Colossians 2:10

You are complete in Him [Jesus], who is the head of all principality and power.

What is a Friend?

Ecclesiastes 4:9

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. 10 For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up. 11 Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; but how can one be warm alone? 12 Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. **and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.**

What is a Friend?

Friend definition:

Companion, fellow, fellow-citizen



What is a Friend?

Friendship is a Covenant Issue

- It carries the **burden** of responsibility
- It carries the **blessings** of benefits

What is a Friend?

Family is Foundational Friendship



What is a Friend?



Family is Foundational Friendship

What is a Friend?

Friends are not simply attracted to your "signs." (Outward)

Friends are attracted to your "standards." (Heart)

John 2:23

Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. 24 But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men,

What is a Friend?

Jesus set the standard of friendship

John 15:13

*Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. 14 You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. 15 **No longer do I call you servants**, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but **I have called you friends**, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.*

What is a Friend?

Jesus set the standard of friendship

1. Friends experience the “greatest love,” the love that sacrifices self for the benefit of others.

What is a Friend?

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2. Friends are comfortable having high expectations of one another. No defensiveness, no hesitation.

What is a Friend?

Jesus set the standard of friendship

3. All helpful and necessary information is shared between friends.

What is a Friend?

Jesus set the standard of friendship

4. Discipleship is actually the process of building trust and friendship with God

2 Timothy 2:2, *And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.*

What is a Friend?

Jesus set the standard of friendship

5. Friends will never **"gaslight"** you:
Gaslighting involves intentionally twisting, changing, or otherwise distorting reality to manipulate how others think or feel

Ephesians 4:15

*Instead, **speaking the truth in love**, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.*

What is a Friend?

Gaslighting Behaviors:

- Minimizing or Making Fun of Feelings
- Discounting Achievements
- Denying Abuse
- Omitting Essential Information
- Showing Inauthentic Concern
- Silently Sabotaging

What is a Friend?

The Golden Rule is the Standard of Covenant/Friendship

Matthew 7:12 (NLV)

Do for other people whatever you would like to have them do for you.

What is a Friend?

Types of friends include those who:

1. **Teach Us:** Pastors, Ministers, Educators
2. **Mold & Support Us:** Parents, Mentors
3. **Correct Us:** VIP's
4. **Cover Us:** Spouse / Friends / Pastors