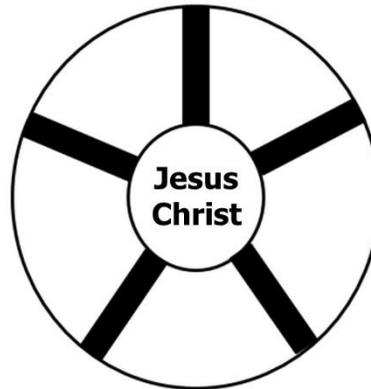


# LIFE IN BALANCE

February 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Pastor Steve

## Balancing Your Social Life



Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people. Luke 2:52

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him."

Genesis 2:18

### Kinds of friends:

I) \_\_\_\_\_ friends are the result of \_\_\_\_\_.

II) \_\_\_\_\_ friends are the result of \_\_\_\_\_.

A) Fact: The \_\_\_\_\_ I am to a person, the greater their \_\_\_\_\_ on my life.

B) Therefore, I must \_\_\_\_\_ my close friends carefully.

### Determining My Close Friends:

A mirror reflects a man's face, but what he is really like is shown by the kind of friends he chooses.

Proverbs 27:19 (TLB)

A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray. Proverbs 12:26a

(NIV)

### Avoid People Who Have Chosen to Be:

I) \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-10

II) \_\_\_\_\_.

A) Don't befriend angry people or associate with hot-tempered people, or you will learn to be like them and endanger your soul. Proverbs 22:24-25

B) Better to be patient than powerful; better to have self-control than to conquer a city. Proverbs 16:32

III) \_\_\_\_\_.  
Ephesians 5:3-7

IV) \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) Ecclesiastes 5:10-11

B) Greed brings grief to the whole family, but those who hate bribes will live. Proverbs 15:27

V) \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) 2 Corinthians 6:14-17

B) Only fools say in their hearts, "There is no God." They are corrupt, and their actions are evil; not one of them does good! Psalm 53:1

C) Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; Psalm 1:1 (NKJV)

#### Select Close Friends Who Will:

I) Stimulate me \_\_\_\_\_.

A) Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble. Proverbs 13:20

B) As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend. Proverbs 27:17

II) Support me \_\_\_\_\_.

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

B) Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

III) Strengthen me \_\_\_\_\_.

A) So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11

B) Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. Hebrews 10:24

#### To Build Close Friendships, I:

I) **Get Interested in Other People.**

A) A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24 (NKJV)

B) Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. Philippians 2:4

II) \_\_\_\_\_ at other people.

A) A glad heart makes a happy face; a broken heart crushes the spirit. Proverbs 15:13

B) So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image. 2 Corinthians 3:18

III) Don't Be A \_\_\_\_\_.

Do everything without complaining and arguing, so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked & perverse people. Philippians 2:14-15

IV) Be A Good \_\_\_\_\_.

A) Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. James 1:19

B) The purposes of a man's heart are deep waters, but a man of understanding draws them out. Proverbs 20:5

V) Accept People \_\_\_\_\_.

A) Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory. Romans 15:7

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

VI) Help People Feel \_\_\_\_\_.

A) Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. Romans 12:10

B) Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Philippians 2:3 (NIV)

VII) \_\_\_\_\_ with people.

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Romans 12:15 (NIV)

VIII) Stick With People In \_\_\_\_\_.

A) There are "friends" who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24

B) Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

IX) \_\_\_\_\_ With People.

Luke 8:38-39

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. John 15:15

(NIV)