

Friendships

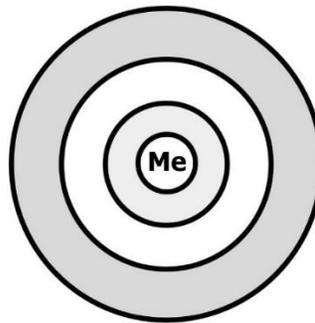
Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 2

Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone..." Genesis 2:18a

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

(NIV)



In fact, James, Peter, and John, who were known as pillars of the church... Galatians 2:9a

There are "friends" who destroy each other...

Proverbs 18:24a

People Who Should Not Be Your Closest Friends:

I) People who like to _____.

Avoiding a fight is a mark of honor; only fools insist on quarreling. Proverbs 20:3

II) People who _____.

A gossip goes around telling secrets, so don't hang around with chatterers. Proverbs 20:19

III) People who _____ others.

A) Flattery is a trap; evil men are caught in it, but good men stay away and sing for joy. Proverbs 29:5

(TLB)

B) They plan to topple me from my high position. They delight in telling lies about me. They praise me to my face but curse me in their hearts... Psalm 62:4

IV) People who can't control their _____.

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

V) People who _____.

Think of the great things we'll get! We'll fill our houses with all the stuff we take. Come, throw in your lot with us; we'll all share the loot." ¹⁵ My child, don't go along with them! Stay far away from their paths. Proverbs 1:13-15

VI) Believers who sin _____.

When I wrote to you before, I told you not to associate with people who indulge in sexual sin. But I wasn't talking about unbelievers who indulge in sexual sin, or are greedy, or cheat people, or worship idols. You would have to leave this world to avoid people like that. I meant that you are not to associate with anyone who claims to be a believer yet indulges in sexual sin, or is greedy, or worships idols, or is abusive, or is a drunkard, or cheats people. Don't even eat with such people. 1 Corinthians 5:9-11

Choose Friends Who:

I) Encourage me _____.

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

II) Consistently support me _____.

A friend loves you all the time, and a brother helps in time of trouble. Proverbs 17:17 (NCV)

III) Challenge me to _____.

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

B) Become wise by walking with the wise; hang out with fools and watch your life fall to pieces. Proverbs 13:20

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

Factors for Forming Friendships:

I) Be _____.

A) A cheerful look brings joy to the heart; good news makes for good health. Proverbs 15:30

B) The LORD hates evil thoughts but is pleased with kind words. Proverbs 15:26 (NCV)

II) Be _____.

A) A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' Matthew 22:39

B) For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. Ephesians 2:10

C) We refuse to wear masks and play games. We don't maneuver and manipulate behind the scenes. And we don't twist God's Word to suit ourselves. Rather, we keep everything we do and say out in the open, the whole truth on display, so that those who want to can see and judge for themselves in the presence of God. 2 Corinthians 4:2 (MSG)

III) Be _____.

A) Don't just think about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and in what they are doing. Philippians 2:4 (TLB)

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

IV) Be _____.

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) Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. Romans 12:15

V) Be _____.

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

VI) Be _____.

A gossip goes around telling secrets, but those who are trustworthy can keep a confidence. Proverbs 11:13

VII) Be _____.

A) Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy. Proverbs 27:6

B) An honest answer is like a kiss of friendship. Proverbs 24:26

VIII) Be _____.

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

I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me. John 15:15