

Friendship

2 TIMOTHY 1:15-18

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The First Truth ...

- ▶ Friendship really matters.





I Am a Rock

I've built walls

A fortress, steep and mighty

That none may perpetrate

I have no need of friendship

Friendship causes pain

It's laughter and it's loving I disdain

I am a rock

I am an island

I Am a Rock

And a rock feels no pain
And an island never cries



Question

- ▶ Where does our need for friendship come from?

John 1:1



1 John 1:3-4

³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard,
so that you also may have fellowship with us.

And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son,
Jesus Christ.

⁴ We write this to make our joy complete. (NIV)

What does this fellowship look like?

- ▶ Belong
- ▶ Devoted
- ▶ Honor
- ▶ Accept
- ▶ Admonish
- ▶ Greet
- ▶ Serve
- ▶ Forgive
- ▶ Bear Burdens
- ▶ Encourage



The Second Truth ...

- ▶ Sometimes friends let us down.

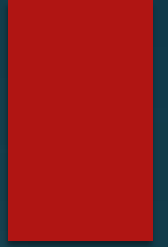


The Third Truth ...

- ▶ Some friends let us down more than others.

Phygelus
Hermogenes





What do we know about these men?

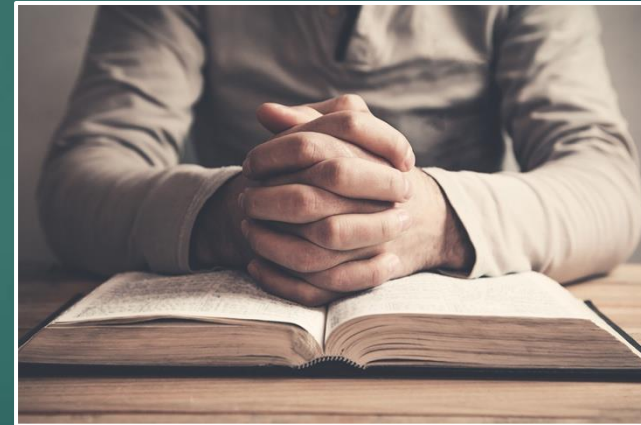
- ▶ Christians known by Timothy and Paul
- ▶ Associated with the churches in Asia
- ▶ Turned away from Paul in his imprisonment
- ▶ Probably closer to Paul than the others
- ▶ Stand in contrast to Onesiphorus

“Et tu Brute?”



The Fourth Truth ...

- ▶ Onesiphorus shows us what true friendship looks like.



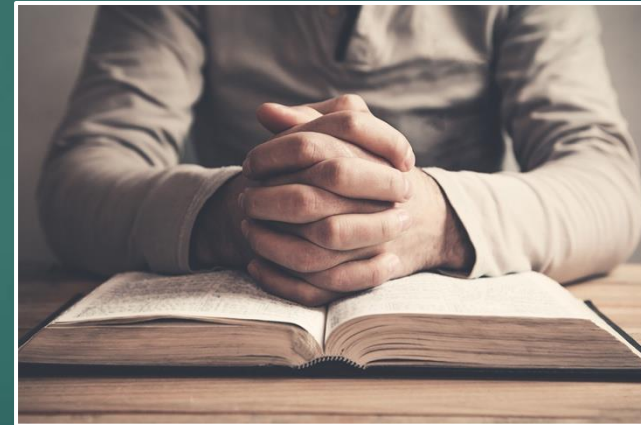
Marks of True Friendship

- ▶ Refreshed me
- ▶ Stuck by me
- ▶ Took risks for me
- ▶ Sacrificed for me
- ▶ Encouraged me
- ▶ Helped me
- ▶ Served me and others



The Fifth Truth ...

- ▶ God uses friendships to encourage and to minister to His people.



Satan Targets Relationships

Genesis 3:1-13

Ephesians 4:26-27



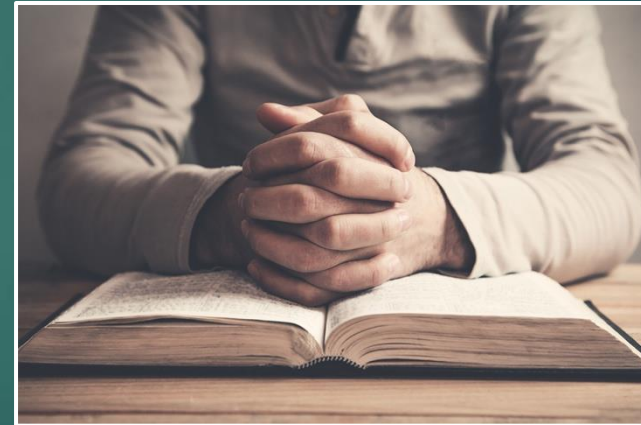
The Sixth Truth ...

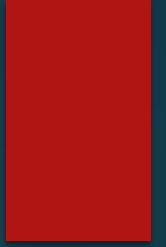
- ▶ It's important to express how much our friends mean to us.



The Seventh Truth ...

- ▶ If you are a true friend to others, you will always have some true and faithful friends.





Closing Applications

- ▶ Don't be consumed by the hurt caused by fair-weather friends.
- ▶ Direct your thoughts toward your true and faithful friends.
- ▶ Be a faithful friend.
- ▶ Take the time and effort to build friendships.

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