

The Good Life

Friendship

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

"Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm." Proverbs 13:20 (ESV)

"A dishonest man spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends." Proverbs 16:28 (ESV)

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

"6 Do not eat the bread of a man who is stingy; do not desire his delicacies, 7 for he is like one who is inwardly calculating. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, but his heart is not with you." Proverbs 23:6-7 (ESV)

"24 Make no friendship with a man given to anger, nor go with a wrathful man, 25 lest you learn his ways and entangle yourself in a snare." Proverbs 22:24-25 (ESV)

"Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy." Pr. 27:6 (ESV)

"Oil and perfume make the heart glad, and the sweetness of a friend comes from his earnest counsel." Proverbs 27:9 (ESV)

"14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? 15 What accord has Christ with Belial?[a] Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? 16 What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, 18 and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty." 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 (ESV)

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Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- Who was your childhood best friend? What were they like?
- How would you describe your friends now compared to when you were a kid?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- Read Proverbs 22:24-25 and 23:6-7. What is it warning you about when it comes to certain types of people?
- Read 2nd Corinthians 6:14-18. Is it ok to hang out with non-believers? What must you be careful about?
- Read Proverbs 13:20 and 27:9. What are the benefits to hanging around people who are wiser than you?
- According to Proverbs 16:28 and 17:17, what does true friendship look like?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- Have you ever given into people pleasing? What is something you have done just because your friend wanted to do it?
- Why do you think Jesus spent time with "sinners" in the community? How can we be friends to people like that as well and still hold true to what we believe?
- How can we Join Jesus on His mission to spread the gospel through our friendships?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- Who is someone that you know that needs a good friend right now? How do you plan to reach out to them?
- Who is someone you could learn from? In what ways can you start a mentorship with someone that is wise and that you can trust?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- Father, thank You for the good friends in my life. Help me to be a good friend as well. Thank you that by Your Spirit, You give me the wisdom to know that I need You. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What has God been teaching you in His word this week? Is there anything you need to repent of?
2. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
3. How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection)
4. Pray for one another.