

Foolproof
Friendships

July 16, 2017

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

List Out Your Closest Friends: (Outside of Family. Imaginary Friend does not count)

_____, _____, _____
_____, _____

Why would friendships be declining?

- ✓ Increase in _____.
- ✓ _____ Rates.
- ✓ _____.

Proverbs 27:19 (LB) "A mirror reflects a man's face. But what he is really like is shown by the friends he chooses."

6 Marks of a Real Friend:

1. I must be _____.

Proverbs 18:24 "A man of many companions may come to ruin but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

Proverbs 18:24 (GN) "Some friendships don't last, but some friendships are more loyal than brothers."

2. I must be _____ and _____.

Proverbs 19:22 (ERV) People want a friend they can trust...

Proverbs 17:9 (NLT) Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends.

3. I must be able to keep _____.

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

4. I must be _____ and _____.

Proverbs 27:5-6 "Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Wounds of a friend can be trusted."

Proverbs 24:26 "An honest answer is the sign of a true friendship."

Ground Rules for correcting a friend:

- ✓ You complement in _____ but you correct in _____.
- ✓ You correct when people are _____ not when they are _____.
- ✓ You never correct a person until, _____, you've proven that you're _____ to correction.

5. I must be able to _____ up and not _____ down.

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

6. I must be _____.

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

Walk Away: Every friendship ends up _____, few end up somewhere on _____.

Romans 5:11 (LB) "Now we can rejoice in our wonderful relationship with God all because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done in dying for our sins -- making us friends with God!"

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List Out Your Closest Friends: (Outside of Family. Imaginary Friend does not count)

_____, _____, _____
_____, _____

Why would friendships be declining?

- ✓ Increase in work hours.
- ✓ Divorce Rates.
- ✓ Social Media.

Proverbs 27:19 (LB) "A mirror reflects a man's face. But what he is really like is shown by the friends he chooses."

6 Marks of a Real Friend:

1. I must be committed.

Proverbs 18:24 "A man of many companions may come to ruin but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

Proverbs 18:24 (GN) "Some friendships don't last, but some friendships are more loyal than brothers."

2. I must be understanding and forgiving.

Proverbs 19:22 (ERV) People want a friend they can trust...

Proverbs 17:9 (NLT) Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends.

3. I must be able to keep secrets.

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

4. I must be honest and truthful.

Proverbs 27:5-6 "Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Wounds of a friend can be trusted."

Proverbs 24:26 "An honest answer is the sign of a true friendship."

Ground Rules for correcting a friend:

- ✓ You complement in public but you correct in private.
- ✓ You correct when people are up not when they are down.
- ✓ You never correct a person until, first, you've proven that you're open to correction.

5. I must be able to build up and not tear down.

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

6. I must be dependable.

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

Walk Away: Every friendship ends up somewhere, few end up somewhere on purpose.

Romans 5:11 (LB) "Now we can rejoice in our wonderful relationship with God all because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done in dying for our sins -- making us friends with God!"