

Be a Godly Friend.

The MANUP Series : Step 9 of 12 : MANUP.co

Q: What's your biggest challenge to BEING a good friend?

Not enough time.	Divorced / Single Parent
Not enough energy.	Family Sickness.
Work Travel.	You've been hurt.
Kid's sports schedule.	You don't know how.

Proverbs 18 (NLT)

²⁴ A man that has friends must *show* himself friendly.

The DO's of Friendship.

1. LISTEN.

Phillipians 2 (NLT)

³ Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don't look out for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

The best way to make friends is to ASK questions.

Romans 12 (NLT)

¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; and weep with those who weep.

Q: Are you making time to listen to your friends?

2. ENCOURAGE.

1 Thessalonians 5 (NLT)

¹¹ Encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing... ^{14b} Encourage those who are timid. Take tender care of those who are weak. Be patient with everyone.

Everyone you know needs encouragement

- because DISCOURAGEMENT happens.

Hebrews 10 (NLT)

²⁴ Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ^{25a} And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another.

Q: Who do you know that needs your encouragement?

3. HELP.

Proverbs 17 (NLT)

¹⁷ A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need.

Proverbs 3 (NLT)

²⁷ Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them. ²⁸ If you can help your neighbor now, don't say, "Come back tomorrow, and I'll help you."

You can't help EVERYONE

but you can help SOMEONE.

Q: Who can you help and how can you help them?

4. ENJOY.

Proverbs 17 (NLT)

²¹ A joyful heart is good medicine.

Ecclesiastes 8 (NLT)

¹⁵ So I recommend having fun, because there is nothing better for people in this world than to eat, drink, and enjoy life. That way they will experience some happiness along with all the hard work God gives them under the sun.

Sometimes the most SPIRITUAL thing

you can do is to LAUGH out loud.

The DON'TS of Friendship.

1. PRETEND.

Pretending is LYING and no-one wants to be friends with a LIAR.

Proverbs 10 (NLT)

¹⁰ People who wink at wrong cause trouble, but a bold reproof promotes peace. ¹¹ The words of the godly are a life-giving fountain; the words of the wicked conceal violent intentions. ¹² Hatred stirs up quarrels, but love makes up for all offenses... ³¹ The mouth of the godly person gives wise advice, but the tongue that deceives will be cut off. ³² The lips of the godly speak helpful words, but the mouth of the wicked speaks perverse words.

You can't be RELATABLE without being VULNERABLE.

Q: Who you can be completely honest with?

2. GOSSIP.

Gossip is talking to anybody who's not part of the PROBLEM or the SOLUTION.

Proverbs 11 (NLT)

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

Proverbs 16 (NLT)

²⁸ A troublemaker plants seeds of strife; gossip separates the best of friends.

Go DIRECTLY. Go QUICKLY. Go HUMBLY.

3. Hold a GRUDGE.

Proverbs 18 (NLT)

¹⁹ Arguments separate friends like a gate locked with bars.

The KEY to settling an argument is FORGIVENESS.

Proverbs 17 (NLT)

⁹ Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends.

Q: Are you avoiding a problem you need to resolve?

4. QUIT when it gets hard.

John 15 (NLT)

¹³ There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friend.

Proverbs 27 (NLT)

¹⁰ Never abandon a friend.

Friends STAY when others walk AWAY.

--

Q: Who are your 4 Quarters?

Action: Write a hand-written note to your 4 quarters this week and tell them why you value their friendship and how they've been a blessing in your life.

Action: Schedule a breakfast, lunch, or coffee with one of the men at your table over the next 2 weeks.