

## Message: Relationship Rehab Week 3: "Friendship Fixer Upper"

### WHY YOU NEED AWESOME FRIENDS

#### 1. FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

"...I want us to help each other with the faith we have. Your faith will help me, and my faith will help you." Romans 1:12 (NCV)

#### 2. FOR EMOTIONAL SUPPORT.

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2 (NIV)

#### 3. FOR BETTER HEALTH.

"Admit your faults to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed." James 5:16a (TLB)

#### 4. FOR SOCIAL ENJOYMENT.

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

#### 5. TO REACH YOUR GOALS.

"Two people are better than one, because they get more done by working together." Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NCV)

"Do for others what you would have them do for you." Matthew 7:12

### SIX GOLDEN RULES OF FRIENDSHIP

#### 1. INVEST THE TIME.

"A man that has friends must show himself friendly." Proverbs 18:24 (KJV)

"Do not be interested only in your own life, but be interested in the lives of others." Philippians 2:4 (NCV)

#### 2. EARN THEIR TRUST.

"Many people claim to be a friend, but it's rare to find someone who is truly trustworthy." Proverbs 20:6 (EXB)

### HOW?

- By being reliable ("Proverbs 17:17)
- By being loyal (Proverbs 17:17, 1 Corinthians 13:7)
- By keeping confidences (Proverbs 11:13, Proverbs 11:13)

#### 3. LISTEN WITH EMPATHY.

"Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry." James 1:19

"We must bear the burden of being considerate of the doubts and fears of others..." Romans 15:2a (TLB)

#### 4. ACCEPT THEIR FLAWS.

"Accept each other just as Christ has accepted you; then God will be glorified." Romans 15:7 (NLT)

"Overlooking a person's faults cultivates love; but nagging about them destroys friendships." Proverbs 17:9

5. CELEBRATE WINS AND SHARE LOSSES.

*"Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."* Romans 12:15 (NIV)

6. BRING OUT THEIR BEST.

*"Just as iron sharpens iron, friends sharpen the minds of each other."* Proverbs 27:17 (CEV)

*"An honest answer is a sign of true friendship."* Proverbs 24:26 (GNT)