FRIES IN THE BOOK OF PROVIDES

Discussion Questions 8/6/23

Friendship According to Proverbs

Intro: What do I do if my friends are leading me away from God? What if they pressure me to sin? The Bible has a lot to say about the people we keep around us. We need friends who are going to help us in our relationship with Jesus and we need to place boundaries around relationships that are not good for us.

Story: Some of us grew up thinking of God as distant. Even if he was close, he was strictly dangerous and really only there to punish anyone who did something bad. John 15:15 teaches that Jesus calls us friend. Whether you saw God as a distant authority figure or something else entirely, how did it change your perception of God when you realized that he calls you friend?

Read: Proverbs 17:17

- 1. Part of the reason relationships, even those including friendship, are spoken about so much in the Bible is because to be human is to inherently have a need for community. What might life be like if we don't have the right community or maybe any community at all?
- 2. Read 1 Samuel 18:1-4. Why is it important to find friends like David had in Jonathan?
- 3. Read Psalm 1. This warns not to walk, stand, or sit in the presence of the wicked. What does Psalm 1 teach us about both good and bad relationships?
- 4. After Cain killed Abel he told God that he was not his brother's keeper. Read Galatians 2:11-21. What does this teach us about difficult moments in friendship?
- 5. While Jesus was constantly around people who were following him, he also built relationships with people who were not Christians. Who is someone you need to invest in (with boundaries) for the sake of their relationships with Jesus?

Pray for:

- · Wisdom.
- · Your friends.
- · Those you struggle to be friends with.