

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Lifehacks
Message: Building Friendships
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: October 30, 2022

Take a moment and think about your friendships. As you do, consider these categories:

Friendships that are close and healthy

People you are no longer close to

Those around you who are lonely

Others who have lost friends and are hurting

Now, as you meditate on the passages below, ask God to help you see what He might want you to do the strengthen good relationships you have, build new ones, attempt to repair broken ones, and help others find friendship. Parents, your example in building and maintaining close friendships (at every stage of life) will have a lasting impact on your children.

Here is a simple, rule-of-thumb guide for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you, then grab the initiative and do it for them. Add up God's Law and Prophets and this is what you get.

Matthew 7:12 (MSG)

⁹ Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. ¹⁰ Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. ¹⁷ Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. ¹⁸ Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.

Romans 12:9-18 selected (NLT)

As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.

Proverbs 27:17 (NLT)

¹⁹ Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. ²⁰ Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires.

James 1:19–20 (NLT)

Wounds from a friend can be trusted.

Proverbs 27:6 (NIV)

Speak the truth in love.

Ephesians 4:15 (NIV)

Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins.

1 Peter 4:8 (NLT)

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

MSG – The Message

NIV – New International Version

NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



Series: Lifehacks
Message: Building Friendships
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: October 30, 2022

Sometimes we rely on “short-cuts” that won’t sustain friendship.

Friends come and friends go but a true friend sticks by you like family.

Proverbs 18:24 (MSG)

True friendship is built over time with generous portions of truth, understanding, grace, service, forgiveness, and patience.

Here is a simple, rule-of-thumb guide for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you, then grab the initiative and do it for them. Add up God’s Law and Prophets and this is what you get.

Matthew 7:12 (MSG)

Good friendships will have failures and disagreements...but they work through them.

² Now I appeal to Euodia and Syntyche. Please, because you belong to the Lord, settle your disagreement. ³ And I ask you, my true partner, to help these two women, for they worked hard with me in telling others the Good News. They worked along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are written in the Book of Life.

Philippians 4:2–3 (NLT)

Some key guidelines for building and repairing friendships:

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 only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. ⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

Philippians 2:3–5 (NLT)