

# Awesome Relationships!

## Friends

6-16-19

1. \_\_\_\_\_ ultimately influence the direction and the quality of your life.

*Proverbs 13:20* - He who walks with the wise grows wise, [That's a promise.]  
but a companion of fools suffers harm. [That's a warning.]

- Walking means doing life together.

2. According to Scripture, a wise person is a person who understands that all of life is \_\_\_\_\_. What you do today, what you decide today, what you think about today will influence who you are tomorrow—that what you did yesterday will impact your experience in life today.

3. The companion of \_\_\_\_\_, the person that does life with fools, is a person who will eventually be \_\_\_\_\_ by the behavior of the fool.

4. Definition of a fool: A person who knows the difference between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, but doesn't care.

- This is a principle.

5. So rather than saying that we're just going to unfriend people in our pursuit of pleasing God, what I want to do today is talk to you about the times when you may need to redefine a friendship.

*Proverbs 12:26* - A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

6. It is impossible over the course of your life to live a God-honoring life when you do not have God-honoring friends.

*1 Corinthians 15:33* - Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

*2 Corinthians 6:14* - Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common?

*Matthew 5:14* - You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. . . .

*Matthew 28:18-20* - Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

7. When your core friends are committed to Christ, then your \_\_\_\_\_ roots grow deeper. When your roots grow deeper, your reach extends further.

Big Idea: Two things we will \_\_\_\_\_ let our friends do:

- I will never let my friends \_\_\_\_\_ me from God's plan.

*Matthew 16:23* - Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in **mind the things of God, but the things of men.**"

- I will not let my friends continually \_\_\_\_\_ me into sin.

*Genesis 39:12* - She caught him by his cloak and said, "Come to bed with me!" But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.

**\*There's one thing that God never wants us to ever stop:**

- I will never, ever stop \_\_\_\_\_ people with the unconditional love of Christ.

*John 13:34-35*- "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

8. We live with the tension that if you show me your friends, you'll see your future. You walk with the wise and you grow wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm. You cannot live the right life when you have the wrong friends. Therefore, you surround yourself with the right core of friends so your roots will grow deeper, your love and reach may grow wider, so your light will shine into a dark world, that they would know you follow Jesus because you love them with His kind of love.