

The Importance Of Friends and Friendships

A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

-Proverbs 17:17

We have several purposes for Friend Day;

- a) To motivate and introduce all inviting people to church
- b) To introduce new to our church
- c) To have an opportunity to impact new people
 - ★ Everyone wants to have good friends. We all need them.

1) Statements about friends that aren't always true:

- a) "Friends know all about each other"
 - ★ *They cannot know all our strengths and weaknesses*
- b) "Blood is thicker than water"
 - ★ *Sometimes friends are closer than relatives*
- c) "A true friend is forever"
 - ★ *Sometimes friendships break up*
- d) "A friend in need is a friend indeed"
 - ★ *Sometimes they can't be there when we need them*
- e) "Friends are likes that attract like"
 - ★ *Some of our most profitable friendship are people who are different than us*

2) How we can help as friends?

1 Corinthians 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.

Philippians 3:17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

b) By Example

- ★ Commitment to Christ

2 Corinthians 12:10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

- ★ Considerate to needs
- ★ Commitment to friendship

c) By Encouragement

1 Tim 1:18-19 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

d) By Listening to them

- ★ Sometimes we just need someone to talk to

e) By WiseCounsel

Exodus 18:13-17 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening. And when Moses' father in law saw all that he did to the people, he said, What is this thing that thou doest to the people? why sittest thou thyself alone, and all the people stand by thee from morning unto even? And Moses said unto his father in law, Because the people come unto me to enquire of God: When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between one and another, and I do make them know the statutes of God, and his laws. And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest is not good.

3) How do friends help us?

a) Counselor

- ★ Help us through problems
- ★ They give us Godly, good advice
- ★ That's why it is of importance who we choose as our friends

b) Hero

- ★ Motivate us to a higher life
- ★ Be careful who you look up to

c) Teacher

- ★ They instruct us in areas of weakness

d) Coach

- ★ They give needed support