



Proverbs

*Friendship*



## TRUTHS ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

### Friends are Essential to Life

**17:17**

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

**18:24**

A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.





## TRUTHS ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

### Deliberate Friendship

**13:20**

Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise,  
but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

**14:7**

Leave the presence of a fool,  
for there you do not meet words of knowledge.

**24:21**

My son, fear the Lord and the king,  
and do not join with those who do otherwise,

**22:24-25**

Make no friendships with a man given to anger,  
nor go with a wrathful man, lest you learn his ways  
and entangle yourself in a snare.





## TRUTHS ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

### Other True Sayings

- Companions/acquaintances **are different** than friendships
- The Bible assumes **you don't have many** friends
- **NARCISSTIC** friends ask "Do you love me?"
- **HUMBLE** friends remind "We both care about \_\_\_\_."
- Friendships are **forged** and **built** at the same time





## 5 Characteristics of True Friendship

1. Constancy
2. Discernment
3. Carefulness
4. Honesty
5. Counsel

Proverbs

## THREE GOALS of GOSPEL-CENTERED FRIENDSHIPS

1. **Community**
2. **Holiness**
3. **Kingdom**





## 1. CONSTANCY

**17:17**

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. (not are always with)

**25:17**

Let your foot be seldom in your neighbor's house, lest he have his fill of you and hate you.

**17:9**

Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends





## 2. DISCERNMENT

**14:20**

The poor is disliked even by his neighbor, but the rich has many friends.

**16:28**

A dishonest man spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends.

**19:4**

Wealth brings many new friends, but a poor man is deserted by his friend.

**19:6-7**

Many seek the favor of a generous man, and everyone is a friend to a man who gives gifts. All a poor man's brothers hate him; how much more do his friends go far from him! He pursues them with words, but does not have them.





## 5. CAREFULNESS

**3:28**

Do not say to your neighbor, “Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it”—when you have it with you.

**26:18-19**

Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows and death is the man who deceives his neighbor and says, “I am only joking!”







## **HONESTY**

**27:6**

Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.

### **THREE GOALS of GOSPEL-CENTERED FRIENDSHIPS**

1. **Community**
2. **Holiness**
3. **Kingdom**





## **HONESTY**

### **SIN and FRIENDSHIP: Honest Community in Practice**

#### **Titus 3:9-11**

But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless.

Warn a divisive person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them. You may be sure that such people are warped and sinful; they are self-condemned.





## **HONESTY**

### **SIN and FRIENDSHIP: Honest Community in Practice**

#### **Romans 16:17-18**

I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them.

For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.





## **HONESTY**

### **SIN and FRIENDSHIP: Honest Community in Practice**

#### **1 Corinthians 5:12-13**

For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.”





## **HONESTY**

### **SIN and FRIENDSHIP: Honest Community in Practice**

#### **2 Thessalonians 3:6**

Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us.

#### **2 Thessalonians 3:14**

If anyone does not obey what we say in this letter, take note of that person, and have nothing to do with him, that he may be ashamed.





## HONESTY

### SIN and FRIENDSHIP: Honest Community in Practice

#### Galatians 2:11-14

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party.

And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabus was led astray by their hypocrisy. So when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"





## **HONESTY**

### **SIN and FRIENDSHIP: The Role of Honest Community**

**Galatians 2:11-14**

**The way we love is by obeying what God tells us to do for them. The Kingdom deserves our ultimate loyalty.**





## COUNSEL

27:9

Oil and perfume make the heart glad, and the sweetness of a friend comes from his earnest counsel.

27:17

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

- \* Godly Counsel Should be **SWEET**
- \* Godly Counsel Should be **SHARPENING**







## **FIVE TRAITS of GOSPEL-CENTERED FRIENDSHIPS**

1. Constancy
2. Discernment
3. Carefulness
4. Honesty
5. Counsel

Proverbs

**We are called to befriend  
because we have the True Friend.**