

The People I Care About - Outline

October 7, 2018

Good friends are hard to find.

What makes a true friendship?

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. (Romans 12:9–13, NLT)

A true friend _____ with you.

Rejoice in our confident hope. (Romans 12:12a, NLT)

A true friend _____ with you.

Never be lazy but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. (Romans 12:11, NLT)

True friends are _____ with each other.

When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. (Romans 12:13, NLT)

A true friend _____ in times of trouble.

Be patient in trouble and keep on praying. (Romans 12:12b, NLT)

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken. (Ecclesiastes 4:9–12, NLT)

T.H.I.N.K. before you speak (or tweet or post it on Facebook)!

T – is it _____?

H – is it _____?

I – is it _____?

N – is it _____?

K – is it _____?

A true friend tells you the _____.

Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. (Romans 12:9b, NLT)

A true friend is _____.

Don't pretend to love others. Really love them. (Romans 12:9a, NLT)

God rescued us from dead-end alleys and dark dungeons. He's set us up in the kingdom of the Son he loves so much, the Son who got us out of the pit we were in, got rid of the sins we were doomed to keep repeating. (Colossians 1:13-14, The Message)

A _____ **Pledge:**

Love each other with genuine affection and take delight in honoring each other. (Romans 12:10, NLT)

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Questions for Individual or Group Study

Read Proverbs 10:12; 17:17; 18:24

What are the qualities of great friends?

What does it mean that “love covers all wrong” in 10:12?
How does that look in real life?

What does it mean “a brother is born of adversity”?
How does that relate to friendship?

How many friends do you have that you could call in times of adversity? (And, are you ok with the answer to that question?)

Read Proverbs 16:28; 26:21

Anyone ever been the victim of a nasty rumor? Tell us your story.
Do you think gossip is worse than other sins? Explain.

Does it seem to you that people like to quarrel?
Why is God opposed to it?

How do you learn to become a peacemaker?

Read Proverbs 3:28-30; 25:9; 27:10a

As you read these verses, pick one that relates to your life, or one that you could put to use in areas of your life this week.

How does wisdom give a person patience? Can you give an example?

Compare Prov 19:11 with 1 Corinthians 5:11-13.

When is it our job to overlook a fault and when is it our job to confront?

Discussion

What are some of the biggest relational mistakes people in your world make?
If you could improve your relational skills in one way, how would that be?