

Series: Joyful Living – Part 6
Scripture: Philippians 2:19-30
Date: June 7, 2009

THE IMPORTANCE OF A GOOD FRIEND!

The sweet smell of incense can make you feel good, but true friendship is better still. Proverbs 27:9

There are two important truths to remember about the subject of friendship...

1. Everyone needs to _____ a good friend!
2. Everyone needs to _____ a good friend!

Four characteristics of a good friend...

- 1. A FRIEND IS SOMEONE WHO IS _____.**
Philippians 2:20 I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare.

2 Tim. 3:1-2 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves

Proverbs 27:6 Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.

Proverbs 24:26 (GN) "An honest answer is the sign of a true friendship."

- 2. A FRIEND IS SOMEONE WHO IS _____.**
Philippians 2:21-24 But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon.

Proverbs 18:24 There are "friends" who pretend to be friends, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

3. A FRIEND IS SOMEONE WHO IS _____ !

Philip. 2:25-30 *But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs.*

John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor, to be with you forever.

The word for "counselor" is from the Greek word "parakaleo" meaning _____.

Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another!

1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

4. A FRIEND IS SOMEONE WHO IS _____ !

Philippians 2:29-30 *Welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor men like him, because he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for the help you could not give me.*

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave...

How can I find good friends?

1. _____ God!
2. Strengthen _____ friendships!
3. Join a _____ !

Romans 5:11 (LB) "Now we can rejoice in our wonderful relationship with God -- all because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done in dying for our sins -- making us friends with God!"