

THE MARK OF A GENUINE FRIEND
John Vawter and Jim Wetherbe

INTRODUCTION

PROVERBS 18:24 “A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”

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PROVERBS 20:6 “Many a man claims to have unfailing love, but a faithful man who can find?”

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PROVERBS 27:5 “Better is open rebuke than hidden love.”

PROVERBS 27:6 “The kisses of an enemy are bitter, but the wounds of a friend are sweet.”

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PROVERBS 27:17 “As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.”

AN IMPORTANT COMPARISON

False Friend

- 1. Will not rebuke even when needed**
- 2. Seeks to please**
- 3. Loves self**
- 4. Useless for edification**
- 5. Rebukes to keep score**

Genuine Friend

- 1. Will rebuke when needed**
- 2. Never compromises truth**
- 3. Loves us**
- 4. Useful for edification**
- 5. Rebukes for our benefit**

Personal Application