

HOW TO BE A FAITHFUL FRIEND

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We live in a world where friendship is vitally needed. Because of the loss of family the younger generation is hungry for and nurturing friendships like no other generation in our history. For the older generation there is a lot of cynicism--or, maybe reality--in viewing friendships. One man said it this way, "Friendship for many is measuring how much you can do for them. When you can not do anything for them, you are not their friend."

A FRIEND LOVES AT ALL TIMES; A BROTHER IS BORN FOR ADVERSITY,
Proverbs 17:17

GENUINE FRIENDSHIP

Nurtures
Educates
Strengthens
Shields

THE KISSES OF AN ENEMY ARE BITTER BUT THE WOUNDS OF A FRIEND CAN BE TRUSTED, Proverbs 27:6

True Friendship_

1. Speaks the truth
2. Is interested in character
3. Seeks to edify
4. Speaks substance

False Friendship

1. Does not speak the truth
2. Is interested in self
3. Seeks to please
4. Speaks words

A FRIEND STICKS CLOSER THAN A BROTHER Proverbs 18:24
THREE DEGREES OF FRIENDSHIP

1. CONSTANT--A FRIEND LOVES AT ALL TIMES
 - a. Friendship does not fade
 - b. Friendship does not change
 - c. Circumstances do not change friendship
2. COMMITTED--A FRIEND IS ALWAYS THERE
 - a. Brotherly love is higher than ordinary friendship
 - b. A true brother is born for adversity
3. SUPERB FRIENDSHIP AND LOVE
 - a. Jesus is the model for this depth of friendship
 1. He never compromised His values (Matthew 20:20-22)
 2. He was honest (Matthew 16:23)
 3. He sacrificed Himself for us (John 15:13)

Personal Application