

Friends

Observing people in their perspective circumstances is often enlightening. Not many days hence there were a number of people standing as they awaited the arrival of a local bus. The ages varied, but they were all into their maturity. As they waited, they stood looking at the ground before them. Their eyes did not meet, and no words were uttered.

How many times do individuals enter an elevator and neither speak nor look at other occupants? As individuals go about their business, they either ignore others or make an attempt to be as inconspicuous as possible.

The opposite of adult apprehension is that of a child. They have little aversion to talking to anyone. It's true that many are shy for a while, but it doesn't last long. Their shyness is usually seen when dealing with adults. As children, they can play and co-exist regardless of gender or race.

What is a friend? Solomon once said, "A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

Friendship is a term used often but attained seldom. But in those times when it is attained, the benefits are rich indeed. In 2 Chron. 20:7 and Isa. 41:8, the term is used to describe Abraham's relationship to God. In Prov. 18:24; 27:6, it is used to describe one man's relationship with another.

Of the relationships, of Proverbs 18 and 27, there are two characteristics of a friend. One, 18:24, "there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." Two, 27:6, "Faithful are the wounds of a friend."

While going through life there is but one friendship that will far exceed all others, i.e., "And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul" (1 Sam. 18:1). "Knit literally means knotted, tied firmly by indissoluble bonds. Do you have a friend whose wounds are faithful and who sticketh closer than a brother? ret