

# Friendship

## Introduction

The Bible not only endorses friendship, but has much to say about it. It admonishes and warns us to take care with our friendships. Finally, Jesus has declared that those who follow Him are His friends.

(All verses in King James Version)

## Take care friends do not lead you astray

Deuteronomy 13:6 If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers;

## There are friends who turn against you in adversity

Psalm 35:14-15 I behaved myself as though he had been my friend or brother: I bowed down heavily, as one that mourneth for his mother. But in mine adversity they rejoiced, and gathered themselves together: yea, the abjects gathered themselves together against me, and I knew it not; they did tear me, and ceased not:

## A true friend is a good thing

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

## We must be friendly to have friends

Proverbs 18:24 A man that hath friends must show himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

## Real friends tell you the truth even if it hurts

Proverbs 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

## A friend's counsel and discussion makes us stronger

Proverbs 27:17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

## **A talebearer can destroy friendships**

Proverbs 17:9 He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends.

## **Human friends can desert us**

Job 19:14 My kinsfolk have failed, and my familiar friends have forgotten me.

## **We can be a friend of God**

Exodus 33:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

James 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

## **We cannot be friends with both God and the World**

James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

## **Christ has called us His disciples and friends**

Luke 12:4 And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.

## **...and exhorts us to be friendly to others**

John 15:14-17 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. These things I command you, that ye love one another.

## **He was a friend to us first**

John 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

## **Conclusion**

We need friends and helpers. God and Christ have called the righteous friends and they have offered to be your friend too.

By: Ron Scott, January 8, 2006