

Friends

"The better part of one's life consists of his friendships."
- *Abraham Lincoln*

"My friends are my estate."
- *Emily Dickinson*

God has designed us for friendship. Genesis 2:18

- We are not meant to be alone.
- We were created with the capacity to have relationships.

One of the greatest examples of friendship... I Samuel 18:1-4
A friendship marked by...

- A bonding of their souls. 18:1a
 - Loving each other as they loved themselves. 18:1b
 - A covenant commitment. 18:3
 - An unselfish surrender to God's will, evidenced by sacrifice. 18:4
 - Support and loyalty. 19:1-7; 20:41-42
- "One loyal friend is worth ten thousand relatives."
- *Euripides, Greek playwright*

A true friend...

- Stays true! Proverbs 27:10
- Loves through the good and the bad times. Proverbs 17:17
"Misfortune shows those who are not really friends."
- *Aristotle*
- Protects from harm. Proverbs 17:9
- Seeks the best for and tells the truth to a friend. Proverbs 27:6, 9
"A true friend stabs you in the front."
- *Oscar Wilde*

Jesus had friendships while living on planet earth. John 11:11

Jesus was known, even by His enemies, to be a friend of sinners. Luke 7:34

Jesus proved His friendship in a very real way! John 15:13

We are all either friends of God or of the world. James 4:4

We can be God's friend... John 15:14; James 2:23