

Men's Breakfast

Biblical Manhood

The Christian Man and His Friends (Part 1)

1 Sam. 18:1-4; 19:1; 20:17

The Challenge of Friendship

Kevin DeYoung rightly notes, "Friendship is the most important-least talked about relationship in the church."

True friendship among men is rare

There are different levels and categories of friendship

The absence of good friends slowly starves everything else we do. A husband without good friends will be a worse husband. A mother without good friends will be a worse mother. A pastor, a doctor, a teacher, and an engineer will all be less effective at their callings without the support and camaraderie of friends.

Marshall Segal

The Elements of True (Biblical) Friendship

It is the kind of friendship that is described in several ways biblically

- Souls knit together (1 Sam 18:1)
- Covenantal (1 Sam. 18:3; 23:18) –
- Encouraging in God (1 Sam. 23:16).
- Kindred spirit (Phil. 2:20) – For I have no one like him, (Phi 2:20 ESV)
For I have no one *else* of kindred spirit (Phi 2:20 NAU)

II. The Benefits of Heart-to-Heart Friendships

- They keep us from the danger of isolation
*He who separates himself seeks his own desire;
He quarrels against all sound wisdom. (Prov. 18:1).*

Reasons for Isolation

Results of Isolation

Garrett Kell, writing about fallen leaders, said, "Sin thrives in isolation. Satan lives in the darkness and longs to keep us there. Lies live best in the darkness. That's why when God calls us to Himself, He calls us into the church."

Heart-to-heart friends keep us from the dangers of isolation.



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- They keep us from the danger of apostasy

Heb. 3:12-14

1. An evil heart of unbelief is a real danger!
2. Which falls away from the living God
3. The antidote against an unbelieving heart

This is the kind of heart-to-friendship, within a heart-to-heart community,
that loves each other enough to talk about sin!

Prov. 27:5-6

4. The result of one-another-encouraging
In order that (purpose) anyone of you not be hardened by the deceitfulness
of sin

“Our best friends are those whose company makes us afraid to sin.”

Maurice Roberts

