

**Scripture:** Exodus 20:1-17 & Job 29 Children's Sermon  
**Singing:** 241:1, 2, 5 – 123:1 – 60:1-5 – 24:1-3 – 73:1-4

## **GOD'S TEACHING ON FRIENDS**

### **A. JESUS'S FRIENDS**

- John 15:14-15 *Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not my 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.*

### **B. JESUS NEEDED HIS FRIENDS**

- Matt. 26:37-38 *And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.*

### **C. JESUS WAS FRIENDLY TO OTHERS WHO WERE NOT EVEN HIS FRIENDS**

- Matt. 11:19 *The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners.*

## **GOD'S TEACHING ON FRIENDS IN PROVERBS**

### **A. Seek and spend time with the right friends**

- Prov. 13:20 *He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed. (See also Ps. 1:1)*
- Prov. 22:24 *Make no friendship with an angry man: and with a furious man thou shalt not go*

### **B. A real friend is friendly, thoughtful, and sensitive**

- Prov. 18:24 *A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother*
- Prov. 27:14 *He that blesseth his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, it shall be counted a curse to him*
- Prov. 26:18-19 *As a mad man who casteth firebrands, arrows and death, so is the man that deceiveth his neighbour and saith, Am not I in sport?*

### **C. A real friend is giving instead of taking**

- Prov. 14:20 *The poor is hated even of his own neighbor: but the rich that many friends*
- Prov. 19:4, 6, *Wealth maketh many friends; but the poor is separated from his neighbor. Many will intreat the favour of the prince: and every man is friend to him that giveth gifts.*

### **D. A real friend is faithful even when we fail or fall**

- Prov. 17:17 *A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.*
- Prov. 18:24b *And there is friend that sticketh closer than a brother*

### **E. A real friend will be honest in his or her love**

- Prov. 27:5-6, 17 *Open rebuke is better than secret love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend: but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.*
- Prov. 27:19 *Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.*

### **F. A real friend will be trustworthy with personal things**

- Prov. 16:28 *A froward (evil) soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.*
- Prov. 17:9 *He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends.*

**Think:** *Am I Jesus' friend and a friend like Jesus?*

- John 15:13-14 *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.*

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The only way to have a friend is to be one. (Emerson)

Faking friendship is worse than faking money. (T. Watson)