



"THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD FRIENDS"
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PROVERBS 18:24 (ESV) "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

PROVERBS 27:10 (ESV) "Do not forsake your friend and your father's friend, and do not go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity. Better is a neighbor (friend) who is near, than a brother who is far away."

INSIGHT: We believe that the majority of what God wants to do in your life, _____ in a Life Group.

TRUTH: The major spiritual changes in your life won't come from weekly attendance to _____ and _____ (Acts 2:46).

TRUTH: The heart of Christianity and our church life is _____; that's where consistent, healthy _____ gets its strength.

I. THE BIBLE EMPHASIS ON _____

TRUTH: The Bible points you to seek godly _____ in the body, as a _____ for godly counsel. We call that _____.

TRUTH: Our trinitarian God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – has existed eternally as a _____.

INSIGHT: Biblical community, _____, in Life Groups is _____; _____ is ungodly.

INSIGHT: It is impossible to obey the "one another" commands of scripture in a _____ context. It can only happen in _____ setting.

II. THE _____ OF FRIENDSHIPS

#1. Friends determine _____ of our lives (Prov. 13:20).

TRUTH: We all have this need for _____.

INSIGHT: Parents, Proverbs 13:20 says the most formative power in the life of your kids is _____ they are around.

WARNING: Your child is _____ likely to follow your teaching and more likely to follow _____.

#2. Friends _____ our lives from bad decisions (Prov. 27:6).

INSIGHT: A friend, God says, can usually tell you when you're about to _____ and you can't see it.

TRUTH: We all need real friends who will point out our _____ and tell us _____.

#3. Friends _____ of us when life _____ (Ecc. 4:9ff).

REAL FRIENDSHIP:

1. A friend is someone who multiplies your _____ and divides your _____.
2. A friend is a _____ which beats true for all time and _____.
3. Irma Bombeck: "A friend is somebody who won't _____ when you're _____!"
4. The best definition: "A friend is someone who will _____ your house when the whole world has just _____!"

III. _____ TO LIFE GROUPS YOU SHOULD DISCARD

1. I'm _____...I don't have _____; it's _____ of the week.
2. I don't want people _____.

INSIGHT: No one is going to ask you about your _____ this week in Life Group.