

Friday

Please read Proverbs 27:5–6, 27:17, 29:5, 27:9 & 22:11. What balance do you see between candor and counsel in these verses?

How have you seen candor and counsel help one of your friendships? Why do you think it was helpful instead of hurtful?

How do these verses help you in your friendships right now?

Thank God for the wisdom of the Bible. Thank Him for the people in your life who have shared candor and counsel with you. Pray that when you speak to your friends, your speech will be seasoned with grace and love.

Saturday

Please read John 15:13–15. What do these verses tell you about God's friendship with you? How can that impact you today? How can know God's view of you impact your friendships?

Thank God today for His love for you. Thank Him for the privilege of being called His friend. Pray that God will use you in the lives of others to build them up and point them to Jesus.



TWIN LAKES CHURCH
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WEEK 5

Friendship

MARCH 9 & 10, 2013 • MARK SPURLOCK

1. The _____ of friendship

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

"Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another: 'What! You too? I thought I was the only one.'" C.S. Lewis, The Four Loves

2. The _____ of friendship

• _____
The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray. *Proverbs 12:26*

Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person, do not associate with one easily angered, or you may learn their ways and get yourself ensnared.
Proverbs 22:24–25

• _____
One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. *Proverbs 18:24 (See also 19:6; 20:6)*

Many claim to have unfailing love, but a faithful person who can find?
Proverbs 20:6

• _____
Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house — too much of you, and they will hate you. *Proverbs 25:17*

Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on a wound, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart. *Proverbs 25:20*

Like a maniac shooting flaming arrows of death is one who deceives their neighbor and says, "I was only joking!" *Proverbs 26:18*

If anyone loudly blesses their neighbor early in the morning, it will be taken as a curse. *Proverbs 27:14*

Whoever would foster love covers over an offense, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends. *Proverbs 17:9*

- _____
Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses. *Proverbs 27:5–6*

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. *Proverbs 27:17*

Those who flatter their neighbors are spreading nets for their feet.
Proverbs 29:5

- _____
Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice. *Proverbs 27:9*
- _____
One who loves a pure heart and who speaks with grace will have the king for a friend. *Proverbs 22:11*

3. The _____ friendship

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.
John 15:13–15

Acknowledgement

Today's sermon is indebted to Dr. Timothy Keller and his message entitled, "Friendship", Redeemer Presbyterian Church, May 29, 2005.

Daily Meditations

During this series, we will read through the entire book of Proverbs in our daily meditation time! These devotions will be simple — just a chance for you to discover Proverbs' relevance to your life!

Monday

Please read Proverbs 17:17. How would you describe your friendships right now? What is going well in your friendships? What would you like to see improved?

What did you learn from Proverbs about friendship last weekend?

What is one way you will apply what you learned this week?

Thank God today for the gift of friends. Pray that God will use this week's study to grow you in your friendships. Thank God today that He loves you and has called you His friend.

Tuesday

Please read Proverbs 12:26, 22:24–25 & 1 Corinthians 15:33. How has/does the character of your friends impact your character?

Think honestly about your character. What influence are you having on your friends?

What direction do you see in these verses when it comes to being a friend and selecting friends?

Thank God today for the direction and warning in these verses. Pray that God will continue to refine your character and use you to build into your friends. Ask for the courage to choose wisely when it comes to friends.

Wednesday

Please read Proverbs 18:24 & 20:6. What is the longest friendship you've ever had?

What are/were the key reasons for the longevity of that relationship?

How has this friendship shaped who you are today?

Thank God today that He is the same always — the perfect example of a constant friend! Pray that you will be a faithful friend and able to reap the benefits of long-term friendships.

Thursday

Please read Proverbs 25:17, 26:18, 27:14 & 17:9. Write down the key pieces of friendship wisdom you see in these verses.

How have you seen the truth of these in your own life (for better or worse!)?

How do you think carefulness helps a friendship?

Who in your life needs some carefulness from you right now?

Thank God today for His grace and love towards you. Pray that you will be a gracious and careful friend. Pray that your actions will be a blessing to your friends today.



As iron sharpens iron,
so one person sharpens another.
Proverbs 27:17