

PROVERBS

The Way of Wisdom

Friendship



There is something Significant about
friendship (Proverbs 18:24, 27:10)

Definition



To become another's friend in the true sense—is to take the other into such close, living fellowship that his life and ours are knit together as one. It is far more than a *pleasant companionship* in bright, sunny hours. A genuine friendship—is entirely unselfish. It seeks no benefit or good of its own. It does not love—for what it may *receive*—but for what it may *give*. Its aim is "not to be served—but to serve"



Friendship Principle



A true friend is not a friend for what he can get out of it but what he can give into it. (fair weather friends are only loyal as long as they are able to benefit from it.

(19:4,6-7; 14:20)



Guidelines for Biblical Friendship



- ☞ Selectivity (Proverbs 18:24, 13:20, 22:24-25)
- ☞ Proximity (Proverbs 27:10)
- ☞ Boundaries (Proverbs 25:17)
- ☞ Mutuality/Candor (Proverbs 27:6,9,17)



☞ Respect (Proverbs 25:9-10)

☞ Forgiveness (Proverbs 17:9)

☞ Consistency (Proverbs 17:17)



David and Johnathan



- True friends are one in spirit (1 Samuel 18:1-4).
- True friends love each other selflessly (1 Samuel 20:3,13-17)
- True friends protect and intercede for each other (1 Samuel 19:1-3,6; 20:1-3,5-7; 23:13-17)

Final Thought



Friendships involve affection, commitment, concern, interest, loyalty, and love. To maintain healthy friendships we have to pay a price.