

**July Bible Study Series:**

**Wise Up!**

**(Lessons from the book of Proverbs)**

**Lesson Eight**  
**Wisdom and Friendships**

**“The best time to make friends  
is before you need them.”**

## **Key Scripture Verse:**

**Proverbs 18:24, A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.**

# **Biblical Friendship**

**A true friend loves, gives wise counsel, remains loyal, forgives, and promotes the other's welfare.**

**Reference Scripture: I Samuel 18:1-4, Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. Saul took him that day and would not let him go home to his father's house anymore. Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. And Jonathan took off the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, even to his sword and his bow and his belt.**

# Three Friendship Qualities

**They:**

- ✓ **Delight us**
- ✓ **Develop us**
- ✓ **Drive us**

## **The Action of a True Friend (Jonathan & David):**

- ✓ **He warned David of Danger**
  - ✓ **He Spoke Well of David**
  - ✓ **He Cared for His Needs**
    - ✓ **He Risked His Life**
- ✓ **He Helped Him Escape Death**



**1 Samuel 20:42, Go in safety, inasmuch as we have sworn to each other in the name of the LORD, saying, 'The LORD will be between me and you, and between my descendants and your descendants forever!**

# **New Testament Friendship**

## **I Corinthians 13**

# **Eight Biblical Principles for Friendships**

**(The Book of Proverbs)**

# **1. Selectivity**

**Proverbs 18:24**

## **2. Proximity**

### **Proverbs 27:10**

# **3. Boundaries**

## **Proverbs 25:17**

# **4. Mutuality**

## **Proverbs 27:9**

# **5. Respect**

## **Proverbs 25:9-10**



# **6. Candor**

## **Proverbs 27:5-6**

# **7. Forgiveness**

## **Proverbs 17:9**

# 8. Constancy

## Proverbs 17:17

# **Four Friendship Takeaways:**

**1. Some Friends Are Close  
to You as Family.**

## **2. You Can Learn from Each Friendship.**

**3. Take Time to Get to Know  
Your Friends: Frenemies and  
Troublemakers.**

## **4. Value True Friendship.**



**“True friends are families which  
you can select.”**

# **Bible Study Follow Up Chat Questions:**

- 1. What are friends for?**
- 2. What attributes define a friend?**
- 3. Are friends more or less valuable than blood-related family members?**
- 4. What should you do if you encounter conflict in a friendship? Can you describe a time when this has happened to you?**
- 5. How well do you know your best friend? Can you describe their interests, identify their fears, name their favorite food? Are these things important to know, and why?**

- 6. Is it easy or hard to be a good friend?**
- 7. How far would you go to help a friend?**
- 8. If you have an older friend, in what ways can they learn from YOU?**
- 9. Are your current friendships biblical? How so?**