

Friendships

October 16th

| Memory Verse |

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interest of others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:3-5

Being a good and healthy leader means you have good and healthy friendships in your life. What this means is you do friendships the way Jesus wants you to...

1. Is it important to have friends? **Why?** What things make someone a good friend? **Why?**
2. Why do you think it is good to have Christian friends if you are trying to live the Christian life?
3. Read **Proverbs 27:17**. What do you think this verse means and what does it have to do with Christianity?

4. Read **1 Corinthians 15:33**. What does this verse have to do with Christianity?

5. As Christians, we should be seeking friends that sharpen us in our faith instead of pulling us away from God. Are there friends in your life that are pulling you away from God? If so, how have you seen them influence you negatively?

6. Think of a good Christian friend you have. How specifically have they affected your walk with God?

Challenge: Stop hanging out with friends that are pulling you away from God. If you have non-Christian friends that aren't pulling you away from God, stay friends with them! That is how you can be a light and a good influence!

Friendships | Accountability

October 23rd

| Memory Verse |

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interest of others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:3-5

1. Have you ever worked out at the gym before? If so, you know it's easier to workout when we have another person working out with us. The same goes for Christianity. It's easier to live the Christian life when we have other people helping us in our walks. It's called accountability. Do you have someone in your life that you regularly talk to about your Christian walk? If so, what do you talk about?
2. **Read James 5:16.** Do you have a friend you tell your sins to? Why can it be scary to tell our sins to our friends? Why is it good to do so, however?
3. **Read Hebrews 10:24-25.** How does this verse further the idea that other Christians can help us grow in our faith?

4. Even though you might already have someone in your life you talk to about God, think of that one person to start being your accountability partner. What are some of the struggles you have in your walk that you should share with him/her?

5. It can be scary telling other people our sins. But if we don't do so, our faith will suffer. We must find someone that we can trust to be our accountability partner. What this means, though, is they are allowed to call you out when you sin. Sometimes it might be judgmental, but they are judging us in love, not hate. Read **Matthew 7:1-5** and write down when God says it is ok to judge others based off of the verse.

Challenge: We all need to work on our faith and we must work out things in our life before we can call others out. However, God wants us to find accountability partners that can call others out when they mess up so that their faith can grow. Find an accountability partner and start opening up with one another.

Friendships | Being a Good Friend Part 1

October 30th

| Memory Verse |

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interest of others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:3-5

So far this month, we have talked about looking for the right friends. However, we need to be a good friend ourselves. Read the following verses and write down what God says it means to be a good friend:

A. 1 Thessalonians 5:11

B. Proverbs 17:17

C. Proverbs 27:5-6

D. Ephesians 4:25

E. Ephesians 4:29

F. Philippians 2:3-5

Out of all of these verses, which 2 or 3 do you need to work on the most?

Challenge: Be the friend God wants you to be. Who likes bad friends? No one!

Friendships | Friendship Check Up

November 6th

| Memory Verse |

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interest of others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:3-5

Create a list of your friends:

Matthew 7:16 says *“You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit.”* **You can see that a friendship is healthy by the good fruit that it bears; which is the actions and words a friend performs.**

1. Describe how your friends are faithful, honest, kind.

2. Are you careful about who you befriend and cautious about how you behave with friends?

Read Proverbs 12:26 Why is this important?

3. Are you more concerned with having true friends OR many friends? **Read Proverbs 18:24**

4. Are your friends a good safety net? **Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-10**

5. **Read John 15:13-15** Is God your best friend, or have you made your earthly friendships more important? If so, what can you do to change that?

After everything you learned this month, create a new list of who your true friends are:

Friendships | Wrap Up

November 13th

| Memory Verse |

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interest of others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:3-5

Part of being a good friend means you encourage others in their faith, about the love God has for them, about how talented they are, etc. What you need to do this week is write a letter to 2 or 3 friends. Give them the letter without expecting to get a letter back. In your letters, include a Bible verse, what you appreciate about your friendship with them, and why you are thankful for them. Have fun!!!