

FORMING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Solid Ground - Faith for this Generation and the Next - Part 4

Genesis 2:18a NLT Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for man to be alone..."

QUALITIES TO LOOK FOR IN YOUR CORE FRIENDS

1. Choose friends who ENCOURAGE me SPIRITUALLY.

1 Thessalonians 5:11a (NLT) *"So encourage each other and build each other up..."*

2. Choose friends who consistently SUPPORT me EMOTIONALLY!

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

3. Choose friends who CHALLENGE me to THINK!

Proverbs 13:20 (NLT) *"Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble."*

FACTORS FOR FORMING FRIENDSHIPS

1. BE CHEERFUL: Greet PEOPLE with a SMILE!

Proverbs 15:30a (NLT) *"A cheerful look brings joy to the heart..."*

Proverbs 15:26 (GNT) *"The Lord... is pleased with friendly words."*

2. BE COMFORTABLE: RELAX and be YOURSELF!

Matthew 22:39 (NCV) Jesus: *"The second command is like the first: 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself!'"*

2 Corinthians 4:2 (MSG) *"We refuse to wear masks and play games. We don't maneuver and manipulate behind the scenes..."*

3. BE CONVERSATIONAL: By ASKING QUESTIONS.

Philippians 2:4 (LB) *"Don't just think about your own affairs, but BE INTERESTED in others, too, and in what they are doing."*

4. BE CONSISTENT: STICK with them in TOUGH TIMES.

Proverbs 18:24 (TLB) *"There are 'friends' who pretend to be friends, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."*

Job 6:14 (CSB) *"A despairing man should receive loyalty from his friends, even if he abandons the fear of the Almighty."*

5. BE CONFIDENTIAL: Don't GOSSIP about THEM.

Proverbs 11:13 (CEV) *"A gossip tells everything, but a true friend will keep a secret."*

Proverbs 11:13 (GNT) *"No one who gossips can be trusted with a secret, but you can put confidence in someone who is trustworthy."*

6. BE CANDID: ALWAYS TELL them the TRUTH.

Proverbs 24:26 (GNT) *"Honest words are a sign of genuine friendship."*

7. BE CHRISTLIKE: LOVE them UNCONDITIONALLY.

Romans 15:7 (NIV) *"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you..."*