

– Proverbs 12.26; 18.24 –

Words to Teens 3

### **Friendship**

*Prov 12 <sup>26</sup> The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray.*

*Prov 18 <sup>24</sup> A man of too many friends comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. [NASV]*

► A big part of life is determining who is a true \_\_\_\_\_  
and how to be a true \_\_\_\_\_.

► **Five essential lessons** the Bible teaches us about friendship:

► **1)** Friendship is \_\_\_\_\_ than companionship.

► **2)** Friendship is \_\_\_\_\_, a force for good or ill.

– Friendship is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the common interests and characteristics of the group.

– Every friendship is going to \_\_\_\_\_ you for better or worse. If you choose good and godly friends, they will be a \_\_\_\_\_ for good and blessing to you and all connected to you.

► **3)** Friendship is \_\_\_\_\_.

– A perfect example is the two women who came before King Solomon claiming the same \_\_\_\_\_ (1Ki 3.16-28).

They were best friends based on shared experiences, but when their experiences changed, their friendship shattered, and they became \_\_\_\_\_.

– Our fallen sense of wellbeing depends on comparing ourselves to \_\_\_\_\_, resulting in a constant roller coaster ride. Often we befriend those who share the same sense of wellbeing, so we go up and down together, taking comfort in one another. But as soon as there is a blessing or hardship that we don't share, our mutual sense of wellbeing is shattered, and we are friends no \_\_\_\_\_.

► **4)** True friendship requires the \_\_\_\_\_ to love as Christ loves. A perfect example is \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ (1Sa 17.57-18.12; 19.1-10; 20.17-34).

– Jonathan understood that glorifying God, blessing David, and blessing himself all \_\_\_\_\_. Only true faith enabled him to see this and act on it. It gave him the freedom to love God and to love David as Christ loves \_\_\_\_\_.

– To have a true friend, your friend has to be \_\_\_\_\_. To be a true friend, you have to be \_\_\_\_\_. Only \_\_\_\_\_ can give you that freedom.

► 5) How to \_\_\_\_\_ a friendship.

Simply ask, “What is the effect of this friendship on \_\_\_\_\_?”

– Two telltale signs that you are in a friendship that is actively leading you in the “way of the wicked”?

1) \_\_\_\_\_.

2) \_\_\_\_\_.

You must \_\_\_\_\_ from these relationships.

If the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God are not fully welcome in your relationship, it is not a true friendship.