

A Man and His Friends

March 9, 2005

“Choosing your Friends”

2 Cor. 6:14,15 - Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?

SUMMARY:

A friend, says the wise man, is the medicine of life. God intends for us to have a few intimate relationships which we can depend on through this life. God knows our needs. We need someone to Love us, someone who is willing to give of themselves for our good. We need someone to rejoice when we rejoice and to weep when we weep. We need someone to encourage us and to sharpen us spiritually. We need a Godly friend. As men of God, we must take special care when choosing our friends.

NOTES:

DISCUSSION POINTS:

Introductory Question: Why do you think Friendship is so valuable?
Discussion:

-In 2 Cor 6:14-15, why does Paul warn against permanent relationships with unbelievers? How would you answer the four questions in that passage?

-What standard should people use in choosing their friends?

-Share an experience you've had
-As a result of a good choice in “friends”
-As a result of a bad choice in “friends”

APPLICATION:

This week, take a good hard look at your “Friendships”. Classify them as either worldly or spiritual. If you don't have any relationships in the spiritual category, I challenge you to ask a Godly man to be your friend. If you do have a few valuable spiritual relationships, I challenge you to go to those people, thank them for being your friend, and make sure they know that you depend on their friendship as part of your growing process.

ON YOUR OWN...

John 13:34, Prov 17:17, Prov 27:17, Eccl 4:9-12
2 Cor 6:14,15, James 4:4, 1 Cor 15:33, Prov 13:20

Note: For those who expressed interest in obtaining more information about last week's teaching on Spiritual Gifts, a resource list is available by e-mailing Jim Jacobs – jjacobs1949@netzero.net.