

Lesson:

This week we started our new series about our friends by looking at who is in our "friend space".

We discussed different types of friends and why it's so important to be careful who we allow to be our "close" friends because "Friends influence Friends" either good or bad.

We learned that God not only wants us to have good friends but he also wants us to use his wisdom in choosing the right friends and in examining who our friends are. We discussed some ways to gain wisdom on which friends will help bring us closer to God and which friends will hurt us or lead us away from God. Some ways that we came up with are: Reading the Bible, Parents, Church Leaders and Praying.

We discussed being intentional about who we choose to allow in our life that they are positive "like minded" Christians to help us draw closer to God. We said that we are more likely to make wise decisions if our closest friends are people who make wise decisions and are more likely to make foolish decisions if we choose close friends who make foolish decisions.

We also talked about how we should not abandon our Non-Christian friends and should actually still continue to reach out to unbelievers in order to follow Jesus' command that we be the salt & the light. But, we should also be careful to not let them be our "close" friends who can influence us and lead us astray.

We finished up by saying to review these verses and seek wisdom whenever we are confronted with a possible new friend to help make sure that we choose friends who are assets and not liabilities.

Next week we discuss different levels and characteristics of friends and the all important BFF.

Bible Verse: Genesis 2:18

18 The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

Bible Verse: Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

9 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: 10 If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

Bible Verse: Proverbs 12:26

26 The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Bible Verse: Proverbs 13:20

20 Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.

Bible Verse: Proverbs 22:24-25

24 Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person, do not associate with one easily angered, 25 or you may learn their ways and get yourself ensnared.

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