




WISE UP

 New Life Christian Center | August 6, 2023
Pastor David Larson | Turlock
Pastor Jeremy Moore | Patterson

LIVING GOD'S WISDOM FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS
"FRIENDS AND WISDOM"

See Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

There are "friends" who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24 (NLT)

1. A true friend shows _____.

A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need. Proverbs 17:17 (NLT)

'A person's friends should be kind to him when he is in trouble, even if he stops fearing the Almighty.'
Job 6:14 (NCV)

2. A true friend will speak _____ and _____.

Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy. Proverbs 27:6 (NLT)

The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense. Proverbs 27:9 (NLT)

3. A true friend brings out the _____ in me.

Don't befriend angry people or associate with hot-tempered people, or you will learn to be like them and endanger your soul. Proverbs 22:24-25 (NLT)

Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for "bad company corrupts good character."
1 Corinthians 15:33 (NLT)


As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend. Proverbs 27:17 (NLT)

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

The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray. Proverbs 12:26 (NIV)



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There are "friends" who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24 (NLT)

1. A true friend shows EMPATHY.

A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need. Proverbs 17:17 (NLT)

'A person's friends should be kind to him when he is in trouble, even if he stops fearing the Almighty.'
Job 6:14 (NCV)

2. A true friend will speak LIFE and TRUTH.

Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy. Proverbs 27:6 (NLT)

The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense. Proverbs 27:9 (NLT)

3. A true friend brings out the BEST in me.

Don't befriend angry people or associate with hot-tempered people, or you will learn to be like them and endanger your soul. Proverbs 22:24-25 (NLT)

Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for "bad company corrupts good character."
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

“FRIENDS AND WISDOM” | August 6, 2023

[CONNECT]

Who is one of your closest friends? Without naming them, tell a bit of your history, and what their friendship has meant to you.

[ENGAGE]

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

[GROW]

Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. You might have heard this passage at a wedding ceremony before, but it’s not specifically about a husband and wife... it’s about deep friendship. What do each of the segments of this passage make you feel? What would it look like to have friends like this?

The first point in the message was “A true friend shows empathy.” What does empathy mean? Share a time when someone has shown you empathy. What did that do in you? How did that show you the empathy of Jesus?

Share a time when a true friend spoke the truth to you that was hard to hear. Were you able to receive it? How did you navigate the friendship after that? Read Proverbs 27:6. Have you found this to be true?

How have your true friends brought out the best in you? Read Proverbs 13:20. Have you found this to be true in the situations and circumstances that you’ve faced?

At the end of the message, Pastor shared the picture of our lives being like a house, and we can set boundaries and let people into the inner areas. Does this give you comfort knowing it’s ok to set boundaries for people who are unsafe? Who have you let into the “kitchen” of your life?

[LEAD (YOURSELF)]

Where can you go, or where can you be involved, to be around people who would make good true friends? Write a list of the qualities and character you desire in a true friend.

Also, remember that through this summer. Read through the book of Proverbs, and read the chapter that corresponds to the date (i.e. on August 15, read Proverbs 15).



**WISE
UP**