



Choosing the Right Friends



Explore the wisdom of Proverbs 13:20 and learn how choosing the right friends shapes your life and faith journey.



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Introduction

Friendship is one of the most impactful relationships in our lives. The Bible teaches us that the company we keep can profoundly influence our character, choices, and spiritual growth. Proverbs 13:20 reminds us, *"Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm."* This ancient wisdom highlights the importance of surrounding ourselves with godly, wise friends who uplift us and guide us closer to God.

In today's fast-paced world, choosing friends wisely can be challenging. Social pressures, shared interests, and convenience often dictate our friendships, but God calls us to a higher standard. Friends who reflect Christ's love, offer encouragement, and hold us accountable help us grow in faith and become more like Him.

This three-day Bible study plan will explore Scripture passages that help us understand the role of friendship in our spiritual journey, how to recognize wise companions, and how to be a good friend ourselves. Through thoughtful reflection, devotional insights, and prayerful journaling, you'll gain a clearer perspective on making godly friendships that nourish your soul and honor God.

As you embark on this study, ask God to open your heart and mind to His guidance in relationships. Let's discover together how choosing the right friends is not just about companionship but a vital step in walking wisely and living well according to God's will.





Day 1: The Power of Wise Friendships



Your Verse

Proverbs 13:20 NIV – "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Ecclesiastes 4:9 NIV – "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor."*
- *1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV – "Do not be misled: 'Bad company corrupts good character.'"*



Devotional: The Secret Strength in Godly Friendships

Proverbs 13:20 offers us a fundamental truth about the influence of our companions. Walking with wise friends means we absorb their wisdom, receive godly counsel, and are inspired toward good choices. On the other hand, hanging out mainly with those who live without regard for God's ways can bring harm, confusion, and setbacks in our spiritual walk.

Ecclesiastes 4:9 adds that friends provide valuable support and strength in life's journey. We are not meant to walk alone. Wise friends not only help us succeed but also provide comfort when life is hard.

Paul's warning to the Corinthians reminds us that our friends affect our character deeply. We should examine who we allow to influence us and prioritize friendships that nurture godliness.

Today, consider the friends you currently spend the most time with. Are they leading you closer to God or away? Pray for discernment to recognize the impact of your relationships and seek God's help to foster friendships that build wisdom and faith.



Reflect and Apply

1. How have your friends influenced your faith and character recently?

2. What qualities do you most value in a wise friend?

3. Are there friendships you need to reconsider for your spiritual well-being?

4. How can you become a wiser friend to others?





Day 1: 🌿 The Power of Wise Friendships

Journaling Prompts

1. List three friends who have positively impacted your faith and why.

2. Reflect on a time a friend helped you make a wise decision.

3. Write a prayer asking God to help you choose and be a godly friend.



Day 1: 🌿 The Power of Wise Friendships

Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of friendship. Please help me to choose friends who walk in Your wisdom and inspire me to grow closer to You. Give me discernment to recognize the influence of those around me, and the courage to seek godly companionship. Help me also to be a wise and loving friend to others, reflecting Your grace and truth in all my relationships. Guide my steps as I walk with friends who honor You. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 🙏👫





Day 2: Walking with the Wise



Your Verse

Psalm 1:1-3 NIV - "Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the LORD..."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Proverbs 27:17 NIV - "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."*
- *Hebrews 10:24-25 NIV - "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together..."*



Day 2: 🏞️ Walking with the Wise

Devotional: Sharpening Each Other Through Godly Friendship

Psalm 1

Proverbs 27:17

Hebrews 10:24-25

Reflect today on your daily “walk” with your friends. Are your friendships sharpening your faith and character? Ask God to help you walk intentionally with those who uplift and spur you toward His purposes.



Reflect and Apply

1. What does it mean to 'walk with the wise' in your daily life?

2. How can your friends help sharpen your faith?

3. Are you encouraging your friends toward love and good deeds?

4. What changes can you make to cultivate more uplifting friendships?





Journaling Prompts

1. Describe a recent experience where a friend encouraged your spiritual growth.

2. Write about a friendship that needs strengthening and ways to improve it.

3. Pray for ways to be a better encourager and supporter to your friends.



Day 2: 🏞️ Walking with the Wise

Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for friendships that sharpen and strengthen me. Help me to walk closely with those who delight in Your Word and spur me toward love and godly living. Open my heart to receive wise counsel and encourage others in return. Lead me away from harmful influences and toward friendships that reflect Your truth and grace. Teach me to be both humble and courageous in choosing my companions. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 🙏📖💛❤️





Day 3: ✨ Becoming a Wise Friend



Your Verse

John 15:12-15 NIV - "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends..."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Proverbs 17:17 NIV - "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity."*
- *Galatians 6:2 NIV - "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."*



Devotional: Reflecting Christ's Love Through Friendship

Jesus sets the highest standard for friendship: love sacrificially and unconditionally. John 15:12–15 highlights that true friends love as Christ loves, willing to support and even sacrifice for one another.

Proverbs 17:17

Galatians 6:2

Today, consider how you can embody the love Jesus models in your friendships. Being a wise friend means reflecting God's love daily and nurturing relationships that glorify Him.



Reflect and Apply

1. How does Jesus' example shape your understanding of friendship?

2. In what ways can you show sacrificial love to your friends?

3. Are there friendships where you could offer more support or forgiveness?

4. How does carrying each other's burdens strengthen your faith community?





Journaling Prompts

1. Identify practical ways you can show Christ-like love to a friend this week.

2. Reflect on a time when a friend's love deeply impacted you.

3. Write a prayer asking God to help you be a sacrificial and faithful friend.



Day 3: ✨ Becoming a Wise Friend

Prayer for Today

Gracious God, teach me to love my friends as You have loved me—sacrificially and unconditionally. Help me to be present for those who need support, to carry burdens with compassion, and to remain faithful through every season of life. Shape me into a wise and loving friend who reflects Your heart and brings glory to Your name through my relationships. May Your love shine through me in every friendship. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* ❤️ 🙌 🌈 🙏





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