

Family Matters

MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 4 – WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

QUALITIES EVERYONE NEEDS FROM THEIR FRIENDS:

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

– Proverbs 12:26

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

– Proverbs 22:24-25

GODLY INFLUENCE

Don't underestimate the influence that your friends have in _____ you
_____ or _____ you _____

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

– Proverbs 13:20

WISDOM

Walk with the wise to become wise and _____

⁵*Better is open rebuke than hidden love. ⁶Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.*

– Proverbs 27:5-6

²⁴*One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.*

– Proverbs 18:24

TRUSTWORTHY

Entrust yourself to friends who value _____ instead of companions given to

⁹Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: ¹⁰If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. ¹¹Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? ¹²Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

– Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

LOYAL

Choose friends you can _____ in the _____ and the _____ times

DIGGING DEEPER:

1. How can friends become like family?
2. Which of these qualities do you feel is most important?
3. Which of these qualities do you believe is your strength?
4. Which of these qualities is missing in your friendships?
5. How can friends be one of the greatest influences in our faith journey?
6. How can friends lead us to become more like Jesus?
7. How can friends lead us away from Jesus?
8. How can walking with wise people make you wise?
9. How can becoming wise help you avoid unnecessary trouble?
10. Why is trust important in relationships that help us grow?
11. What is the difference between being negative criticism and constructive criticism in friendships?
12. Why is loyalty important in friendships? Tell of a time when someone was loyal to you during a difficult time in your life.
13. How can you become a friend who seeks to display these qualities in your friendships?