

NOW WORD Covenant Church
Dynamics of Godly Relationships
Godly Friendships
Sunday, November 17, 2019

Introduction: Today, we are going to talk about what it means to be in a godly friendship relationship.

Scripture: Genesis 2:18. Then the Lord God said, "It is **not good** for the man to **be alone**. I will make a **helper** who is **just right** for him." (NLT)

Objective

- Improve our relational skills (godly)
- Examine ourselves (self-aware)
- Live at peace with all people (application)

Definition: A relationship is a **state** of being **connected**.

Characteristics of Relationships:

1. All relationships have a standard of **behavior** (love)
2. All relationships have **boundaries** (rules)
3. All relationships have **expectations** (obligations)

Review: Pastor & People Relationships – Jeremiah 3:15

Takeaway: Pastor and people relationships are based upon God's **love** for us. God's **love** for us is shared by our **love** for one another through our **mutual esteem** and **goodwill toward** one another.

Today's Message: Godly Friendships

PT1. Friends are for _____

Then the Lord God said, "It is **not good** for the man to **be alone**."
Genesis 2:18a. (NLT)

PT2. Friends are for _____

Two people are **better** off than one, for they can **help each other** succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NLT)

PT3. Friends are _____

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

FRIENDSHIP DOCTRINE

1. Friends with God FIRST

There is **no greater love** than to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are **my friends** if **you do** what **I command**. John 15:13-14 (NLT)

2. 3 Levels of Friendship

There is **no greater love** than to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:13 (NLT)

1. Casual friends - group
2. Circle of friends – social
3. Close friend(s) – disclosure

“Friends come into your life for a reason and they stay for a season or a lifetime.”

3. Choose your friends Wisely (Brainwaves)

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

“Friends become a single soul living in two bodies.” – Aristotle

4. Friendship Progression

I am a friend to anyone who fears you anyone who obeys your commandments. Psalms 119:63 (NLT)

1. Values – godly character
2. Similarities - same interests
3. Likability – personalities
4. Consistency – time-tested
5. Trust – self-disclosure

Offended Friends

An **offended** friend is **harder** to win back than a **fortified** city. **Arguments** separate friends like a gate **locked** with **bars**. Proverbs 18:19 (NLT)

5. Interpersonal Skills – Other–person Centered

“Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.” Matthew 7:12 (NLT)

“You make yourself friendly by making the interests of your friends just as important as your own.” ~PK

NEXT WEEK: Self-Awareness