

Christian Friends Love Sacrificially

Read John 15:13

Jesus is the finest example of a true Christian friend. His love for us is sacrificial, never selfish. He demonstrated it not only through his miracles of healing, but more fully through the humble service of washing the disciples' feet, and then ultimately, when he laid down his life on the cross.

What does it mean to lay your life down for your friends?

In what ways do you sacrifice for your friends?

Christian Friends Trust Completely

Read Proverbs 18:24

We should only expect to share complete trust with a few loyal friends. Trusting too easily can lead to ruin, so be careful about putting your confidence in a mere companion. Over time our true Christian friends will prove their trustworthiness by sticking closer than a brother or sister.

Christian Friends Give Mutual Edification

Read Proverb 27:6

Wounds from a friend can be trusted...

True Christian friends will build each other up emotionally, spiritually, and physically. We receive strength, encouragement, and love. We talk, we cry, we listen. But at times we also have to say the difficult things our dearest friend needs to hear. Yet, because of the shared trust and acceptance, we are the one person who can impact our friend's heart, for we know how to deliver the hard message with truth and grace.

Read Proverbs 27:17. Are you willing to be wounded for your benefit? Are you willing to receive the tough words from a friend?

Of these examples, you may be asking yourself what areas you may need to work on to build those stronger friendships. Do you love sacrificially? Do you trust completely? Can you say those difficult things to your friends, to hold them accountable?

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Awesome Relationships

How to Have Awesome Friendships

Pastor Rick Rufenacht



golden rules of friendship

Invest _____ **Time** _____

Prov 18:24

Phil 2:4

Earn _____ **Trust** _____

Prov 20:6

Prov 17:17

_____ **Listen** _____ **with Empathy**

Rom 12:5

James 1:19

_____ **Accept** _____ **Flaws**

Rom 15:7

1 Peter 4:8

Bring out _____ **the** _____ **Best** _____

Prov 27:17

Prov 24:26