

Why are Christian friendships important?

When we experience "new birth" through Christ, we not only have a new relationship with God, but we are grafted into a special relationship with other Christians that an unbeliever doesn't have.

Read Luke 6:13-16

Even Jesus had an inner circle. Jesus formed a small group of men who spent three years together with him daily. From what you know of their life together as recorded in the Gospels, list as many aspects of their group life as you can. (For example, they ate meals together).

This group of men was who he shared his life with. Not only were these relationships vital to Christ they illustrate to us that we too need this Christian fellowship. It is a fellowship based on our common life in Jesus. The Christian life must be lived in the context of the shared life. God has made us in such a way that we really do need each other.

Some things to think about:

1. Do I have this special relationship with other believers?
2. Do I pray regularly with others? Really share my life? Seek God's will with a group of believers whom I love and trust? Share my time, energy, and resources to help the needs of other believers? Do we encourage and support one another in our walk with Christ and service for him?
3. If not what can I do about it?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Do I function as an independent Christian ("it's just me and God") or do I function as part of the body of Christ, the family of God? Do I see my need for other Christians around me in order to do God's work here on earth? Why or why not?

"Teach us Lord that it is your will that we go on this walk together. Teach us that it's not our mutual agreements and ideals that bind us. It's the life of Jesus Christ that binds us and so we belong together and we must go together."

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"Not So" Chance Encounters With Jesus

The Paralytic Is Healed

Pastor Rick Rufenacht



Mark 2:1-12

Faithful Friends or Friends **with Faith**

Pr 17:17 Pr 27:10

Faith is the Winner

Heb 11:6 Matt 8:26

True Need Vs **perceived Need**

James 5:15-16

The Best **reveal**

Daniel 7:13-14