



10 The thief's purpose is to steal, kill and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness. John 10:10 (TLB)

- Where we are currently is not the goal.
- Show me your friends and I'll show you your future.

20 Be with wise men and become wise. Be with evil men and become evil. Proverbs 13:20 (TLB)

- Friends will either elevate or undermine you.

26 The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray. Proverbs 12:26 (NIV)

YOUR CLOSEST FRIENDS:

- It's impossible to live the right life with the wrong friends.

33 Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." 1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)

Friends provide:

- Advice to live by.

1 Oh, the joys of those who do not follow evil men's advice, who do not hang around with sinners, scoffing at the things of God.

2 But they delight in doing everything God wants them to, and day and night are always meditating on his laws and thinking about ways to follow him more closely. Psalm 1:1-2 (TLB)

- Support to live with.

- Examples to live out.

Don't befriend angry people or associate with hot-tempered people, or you will learn to be like them and endanger your soul. Proverbs 22:24-25 (NLT)

17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. Proverbs 17:17 (ESV)

- The wrong friends can't lead me where God is taking me.

Who is it that God wants us to be?

- Fully Committed to Him.

May the God of peace himself make you entirely pure and devoted to God; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept strong and blameless until that day when our Lord Jesus Christ comes back again. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 (TLB)

1 ...I encourage you to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, dedicated to God and pleasing to him. This kind of worship is appropriate for you. Romans 12:1 (GW)

- Friends will lead you where you would not go on your own.

I need influences that:

- Support Spiritual strength in my life.

¹⁵ While David was at Horesh in the Desert of Ziph, he learned that Saul had come out to take his life. ¹⁶ And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God. 1 Sam 23:15-16 (NIV)

- That encourage me to get "there".

Do I have Influences that:

- Pray with me.
- Direct me to God.
- Provide an image of God's love.

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What spoke most to you from the talk on Sunday?
- How many close friends do you have? Are these friends good or bad influences?
- What does it mean to you when Dave said: "Show me your friends and I'll show you your future"?
- How important is our selection of friends? Explain why you feel this way.
- Do you think you can live the "right life" with the "Wrong friends"? Why?
- Do you rely on the advice, support and example of your friends? Are you the influence they need?
- Why is this statement true- "Friends will lead us where we would not go on our own"?
- Do you have friends that encourage you to get "there"? How do they encourage you?
- Why do we need influences that pray with us?
- How do friends direct you to God?
- Are you the friend to others that you need? How could you be a better influence?

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