

Life Application Notes

Everyday Life Week 2: Friendship

John 15:13 - 13th June 2021

Opener: the TV show Friends is “a TV show about that time in your life when your friends are your family”. What is your favourite episode of Friends? Why? What is it the characters do for each other that makes them more like family than friends? If Friends is not your thing, think of the best TV/film friendship you can; what is it that makes that a great friendship?

Thinking a little closer to home, can you think of a situation where a friend has bailed you out? Did you know that that friend would always be there for you? What qualities about that person meant you knew they would be the right person? (Dependability, availability) What other day-to-day qualities are important in friendships? (empathy, honesty, advice)

Read **John 15:12-17**. Jesus calls his disciples his friends. When you consider the relationships you have with your closest friends, what does it mean to you that Jesus says that he wants to call you friend?

Split into 2s and 3s and read through the verses below. Which verses can you relate to? Which do you feel like you have experience of? Share stories where appropriate.

- Proverbs 27:9 - Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of one's friends springs from earnest counsel.
- Proverbs 27:6 - Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses. (i.e., if a friend pulls you up (wounds you), it is in love)
- Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron, so one man will sharpen another.
- Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.
- Job 6:14 - He who withholds kindness from a friend forsakes the fear of the Almighty.

Come back together and share stories with each other.

Summarising what you have heard from each other, how can we be better friends to each other? Do you have one of a few really close friend(s) that can speak into your life and will always be there for you?

Pray together. Ask that God gives you the grace to be humble towards your friends and to have a servant heart towards them to be available and dependable. Pray for the needs of others in your group - this is a key way we can one-another!