



How Shall the Young Be a Friend?

Bubba Garner · Series: How Shall the Young

INTRODUCTION

- You're going to have many relationships where you don't have a whole lot of choice about them, but this is one where you get to select your friends.
- We don't have a right to expect our friends to have all these things that we want, and then we're not willing to be those things on our own.
- If you want to have a friend who's all those things, then you be one who's all those things.

1 Choose the Friends You Want to Become

Proverbs 13:20; 1 Corinthians 15:33

- He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.
- Choose the friends you want to become.
- You also need to be choosing friends who you want to imitate and you want to become more like them.
- Paul said, Do not be deceived. Evil companions corrupt good morals.
- Don't be deceived into thinking you can be around friends who are not of good influence and you won't follow after their example.

2 Give Your Friends a Loyal Commitment

Proverbs 17:17; 1 Samuel 18:1; Proverbs 18:24

- There is a friend who loves at all times.
- When your friend is being lifted up, then you love them and you be proud of them and say, I'm glad that they're my friend.
- The soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David. So there wasn't going to come a time when they didn't love one another.
- There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.
- Your friends deserve a loyal commitment.
- Your best friends ought to be Christians. Those you share the most common thing, the most important commonality, your faith in God.

3 Tell Your Friends What They Need to Hear

Proverbs 27:6

- Faithful are the wounds of a friend.
- There will be times when your friends are gonna have to say something to hurt you. Not because they want to hurt you, but because they want to help you.
- You need to tell your friends what they need to hear. To wound them so that they will get better.

- We would go to them not in a judgmental way or to say, I'm better than you, but again, just out of a love for them.
- If they can tell you're telling them this because you love them, then they will listen.
- You have the responsibility as a friend who loves at all times to tell your friends what they need to hear.

4 Help Your Friends Become the Friend of God

Proverbs 27:17; James 2:21–24; John 15:13–14

- Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.
- One of your greatest parts of friendship that you have with those who you associate with is to help one another become God's friend.
- Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness, and therefore he is called the friend of God.
- There is no such thing as a fair weather friend of God.
- You should have friends who are not Christians so that you can be an influence on them and show them what it means to be the friend of God.
- What a great service you can do for your friends just by sharing with them the gospel.

THE CHALLENGE

Let's take all that we've learned about the importance of choosing our friends and choose him for our best friend.

MY NOTES
