# Selfless Friendship

**Brent Moody** · Proverbs 19:4–9

## INTRODUCTION

- When you gain friends, gain them through testing, and do not trust them hastily.
- Deep friendships and true friendships develop over time, they don't just happen quickly.
- Our best friends ought to be those who are following Jesus.

## 1 True Friends Love With Pure Motives, Consistently

**Proverbs 19:4–9; Proverbs 18:13–17; Proverbs 19:1**

- True friends, selfless friends, are those who love with pure motives, who love consistently. They're not centered on their own self-interest.
- Wealth brings many new friends, but a poor man is deserted by his friends.
- What if this person wasn't giving me gifts? What if they weren't there to help me all the time in financial need or whatever it is? Would I still be their friend?
- We do not owe friendship to people. We can act in loving ways, and we can be gracious and we can be merciful and we can be caring without giving ourselves over to some bond of close friendship.
- Have a lot of friends, but be careful who you are going to go to with trust. Do not trust them hastily.
- Observe, appreciate the generosity of another, but don't let that be why you become their friend.

## 2 A Selfless Friend Will Correct Lovingly

**Ephesians 4:15; Proverbs 27:6; James 5:19–20**

- Friends don't let friends live in sin.
- You speak the truth in love. I think that's almost the foundational level of what friendship is.
- Faithful are the wounds of a friend.
- Sometimes the most beneficial thing is for a close friend to come to us and say, Have you thought about what you're doing?
- Whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.
- Speaking the truth in love is real friendship. That is what we desperately need.

## 3 Selfless Friends Share With Us

**Proverbs 17:17**

- They share in our good times. They share in our difficult times. They stand by us at all times.
- A friend loves at all times. And a brother is born for adversity.
- It's not really about what I say, it's just the fact that I'm there.

- The fact that I will sit there with them in their pain, in their grief, and not run the other way afraid.
- Rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep.

THE CHALLENGE

All of this is working to be like Jesus and working to be around people who are like Jesus. Do you want to be like Jesus? Do you want people around you like Jesus?

MY NOTES