

## **Get Smart: Wisdom for Life from Proverbs**

### **Discussion 6: “Get Friends”**

#### **Summary/Overview:**

To look at the value of friendship and wise principles of how to be a good friend.

#### **Reminder:**

*This is a guide. Adjust the content used based on the needs of your group.*

#### **I. Group Welcome/Icebreaker, if needed (Suggested Time: 3-5 min.)**

#### **II. Life Sharing (Suggested Time: 10-15 min.)**

Allow each individual or couple to share about how they are doing personally.

#### **III. DNA Journal Sharing (Suggested Time: 3-5 min.)**

Allow people to share about what God is speaking to them through their daily reading using their DNA Journal.

#### **IV. DVD Discussion Introduction (Approximately 20-25 min.)**

Open in prayer.

Play “Get Smart” DVD (Discussion 6).

#### **V. Discussion (Suggested Time: 30-45 min.)**

What stood out to you from the DVD?

##### **Section 1: The Value of Friendships**

1. Who was your best friend as a child?
2. Discuss the different types of connections that we have with people.  
For example: Stranger, Acquaintance, Neighbor, “hang out” pal; intimate friend; family; spouse.
3. God said it was not good for man to be alone (**Gen 2:18**). Beside the closeness of marriage, why is “being alone” not necessarily the best situation for us?
  - Are there times when you enjoy being alone?
4. Can you think of those in the Bible who enjoyed very close friendships?  
Complete the following:

David was a close friend of \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 Sam. 18:3).

Paul was a close friend of \_\_\_\_\_  
(2 Tim. 1:1-2).

Shadrach was a close friend of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Daniel 3:12).

Moses was a close friend of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Deut. 31:7).

Elisha was a close friend of \_\_\_\_\_  
(2 Kings 2:1-2).

Review and discuss these verses:

Prov 17:17: "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

Prov 18:24 "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

Prov 12:26 "A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray."

Prov 13:20 "He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm."

- What do you learn about friendship from these verses?
- Have you experienced any of these things in your friendships?

## **Section 2: What kind of friend are you?**

1. How do you demonstrate friendship?
2. Do you feel that you are a good friend?
3. What area(s) can you work on to make your friendships better?

### **The Kind of Friend You want to be:**

#### **1. Be committed**

Prov. 27:10 “Do not forsake your friend and the friend of your father, and do not go to your brother’s house when disaster strikes you—better a neighbor nearby than a brother far away.”

- Would people consider you a committed friend?

## 2. Be candid/honest

Prov. 27:6 “Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.”

Prov. 27:9 “Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of one’s friend springs from his earnest counsel.”

- Are you honest with your friends? If not, why not?

## 3. Be confidential

Prov. 17:9 “He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.”

- NOTE: “Anyone who talks to me about someone else, will talk about me to someone else.”
- Why is this important to friendship?
- Are you this kind of friend?

## 4. Be tactful (considerate and caring; timing and word choice; you can do the right thing and still be wrong)

Prov. 25:17 “Seldom set foot in your neighbor’s house— too much of you, and he will hate you.”

Prov. 27:14 “If a man loudly blesses his neighbor early in the morning, it will be taken as a curse.”

- Do you think your friends would consider you tactful?

## Conclusion:

What does the following declaration by Jesus imply?

John 15:15 “I no longer **call** you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you **friends**, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.”

- Do you consider yourself a “friend of God”?

**A “Wise” Suggestion:** There are 31 chapters in Proverbs. Read one chapter of Proverbs each day for the corresponding date (i.e. On June 20, read Proverbs 20, etc.).

**VI. Prayer (Suggested Time: 10-15 min.)**

Pray for any issues related to the discussion.

Pray for any personal needs.

**VII. Important Church Announcements (Suggested Time: 2-3 min.)**

Encourage your Life Group members to participate in the upcoming opportunities and events at The Cause.