

FRIENDS ARE FRIENDS FOREVER

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Woodland Church

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1. Encourage one another.

"So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing."
(1 Thessalonians 5:11, NLT)

2. Be trustworthy.

"A gossip goes around telling secrets, but those who are trustworthy can keep a confidence." (Proverbs 11:13, NLT)

"Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ." (Philippians 1:27, NLT)

3. Keep your friendships centered on Christ.

"Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for "bad company corrupts good character." (1 Corinthians 15:33, NLT)

4. Be a loyal friend

"Many will say they are loyal friends, but who can find one who is truly reliable?"
(Proverbs 20:6, NLT)

"One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." (Proverbs 18:24, NIV)

5. Love as Jesus loved.

"There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you slaves because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me." (John 15:13-15, NLT)

“For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.”
(John 3:16, NLT)

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other." (John 13:34, NLT)

Growthwork

1. Build a relationship with someone.
2. Don't be too busy.

“As Jesus and the disciples continued on their way to Jerusalem, they came to a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. Her sister, Mary, sat at the Lord's feet, listening to what he taught. But Martha was distracted by the big dinner she was preparing. She came to Jesus and said, “Lord, doesn't it seem unfair to you that my sister just sits here while I do all the work? Tell her to come and help me.” But the Lord said to her, “My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her.”
(Luke 10:38-42, NLT)

3. Pray with and for your friends.

“They went to the olive grove called Gethsemane, and Jesus said, “Sit here while I go and pray.” He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he became deeply troubled and distressed. He told them, “My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.” (Mark 14:32-34, NLT)

“We know the importance of a friend. All of us need friends, don't we? Whether or not you are friendly could determine whether or not someone hears about Jesus Christ. Your handshake, your warmth, your friendliness, could make the difference in someone's life.” -Max Lucado