



BIBLICAL COMMUNITY

Deeper Relationships

1 Samuel 20

“Friendship”

1 Samuel 20

Intro:

A true friend always puts the interest and well being of his friend first, **Phil. 2:3-4**.

The world often fails to differentiate between friendship and an acquaintance.

A good picture of Biblical friendship is seen in the relationship between Jonathan and David, **1 Sam. 20**.

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Intro:

Prov. 18:24 makes a distinction between neighbor or acquaintance, and a true friend.

Prov. 18:24 is an antithetical parallelism. It provides a contrast of thought in the same proverb.

There are two different Hebrew words used here; *rā-ah* in the first section which indicates a relationship such as an acquaintance.

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Intro:

The second word for friend is ä-hav and is used of a more intimate relationship, such as between man and wife.

The issue of “Friendship” is strong in Proverbs. “friend” is used more than nine times in the book.

We need friends. We can’t be successful in our Christian walk without true, Biblical friends.

“Friendship”

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I. 4 Reasons We Need Biblical Friends

- 1. We are human** and are made in God’s image to be communal, not solitary.
- 2. It is the highest happiness.** “The well being and happiness of society is friendship.” **J. Edwards.**
- 3. We won’t make it alone.** God brings us to faith and will cause us to persevere in faith, **Phil. 1:6**
- 4. Friendship halves our sorrows;** “The world is full of sorrow because it’s full of sin, **J. C. Ryle**

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II. 5 Aspects of Biblical Friendship

- 1.** Biblical friendship and non-Christian friendship share similar characteristics,
- 2.** Biblical friendship is being one in spirit. With the Christian it is with the Holy Spirit,
- 3.** Biblical Friendship loves his friend as himself,
- 4.** Biblical friendship is grounded in God’s faithfulness,
- 5.** Biblical friendship involves being willing to lay down our lives for our friend.