

State of the Union: Socially Distant
Pastor Johnson Bowie
November 22, 2020

Genesis 2:18 TLV

“It is not good for the man to be **alone**. I will make a helper suitable for him.”

What Does It Mean to Be a Friend?

1. A Friend is Friendly

Proverbs 18:24 NKJV

A man who has friends must himself be friendly...

There are over 50 “one another” scriptures in the Bible...

- Be at peace with one another, *Romans 12:18*
- Build one another up, *Romans 14:19*
- Love one another, *John 13:34*
- Care for one another, *1 Corinthians 12:25*
- Serve one another, *Galatians 5:13*
- Accept one another, *Romans 15:7*
- Encourage one another, *1 Thessalonians 5:11*
- Forgive one another, *Ephesians 4:2*

What Does It Mean to Be a Friend?

1. A Friend is Friendly
- 2. A Friend is Fiery**

Proverbs 13:20 MSG

Become wise by walking with the wise; hang out with fools and watch your life fall to pieces.

1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

Acts 2:42-47 NIV

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Proverbs 18:1 NKJV

A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; he rages against all wise judgment.

What Does It Mean to Be a Friend?

1. A Friend is Friendly
2. A Friend is Fiery
- 3. A Friend is Faithful**

1 Corinthians 1:10-13 NIV

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and **that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought**. My brothers and sisters, some from

Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul?

Proverbs 17:17 TPT

A dear friend will love you no matter what, and a family sticks together through all kinds of trouble.

John 15:13 NIV

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

"When we honestly ask ourselves which persons in our lives mean the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving much advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a gentle and tender hand. The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not-knowing, not-curing, not-healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is a friend who cares."

– *Henri Nouwen*

The Lord's Prayer

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, here on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen."