

Conversations from Proverbs

“Let’s Talk About...Choosing Our Friends”

“The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.”
Proverbs 12:26 NIV

WORD: God, what are You saying to me through Your Word?

God encourages us to be picky about our people. In other Scriptures He commands us to love everybody, but in this passage He tells us to cautiously select those who are our closest companions. To “**choose... friends carefully**” means to search out and be a detective about a person’s character and conduct before you entrust your heart to them. *What qualities do you think you should look for in friends? Where might you be able to see or spy out these?*

WHY: God, why does this Scripture matter?

Friends affect the course of our lives. Good friends with righteous conduct and character will lead us toward the Lord, but “friends” who are hostile toward God, His Word and His ways will lead us down the wrong paths. **Friendship matters because it helps determine the path your life will take.** *Let’s talk about our current friends and their character traits. Which way(s) are your current friends leading you? You them?*

WHAT: God, what else does Your Word say to me about this?

God’s Word has plenty to say about friendship. 1 Corinthians 15:33 says, “**Bad company corrupts good character,**” which means that bad friends can literally ruin your character, but, on the other hand, good company can help our character become better. Proverbs 13:20 warns, “**Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.**” *What harm might come from bad friends? Have you experienced this before? What are the benefits of good friends? Who are our friends?*

WORSHIP: God, how do You want me to respond to this truth?

We worship God by honoring Him in every aspect of life - - - including how we choose our friends. Isn’t it awesome that God cares about this detail of our lives, too? *Let’s spend some time praying for the friends we have and seeking Him about the new friends He may want us to have. Are there any unhealthy friendships we need to let go of? Are there any new friendships that we need to open our hearts to? Let’s ask God to help and lead us in all of this!*

Family Disciple Me Blessing

Jesus, You call us Your friends when we obey You (John 15:14-15). Thank You for allowing us to be Your friends. Help us to have wisdom and discernment as we choose our other friendships. In Your Name Jesus, amen!

