

# appnotes

## DAY 1

### READ PROVERBS 22:24-25

Maybe you've heard the saying, "Show me your friends, and I'll show you who you will be in five years." In today's passage, King Solomon warns against becoming close friends with someone with anger issues because you can become like them. The Bible often repeats this key friendship principle: you become like your best buds. The question you have to ask yourself is: are my closest friends the kind of people I aspire to be like one day? You can leverage this principle in your favor by surrounding yourself with people you want to be like (see Proverbs 13:20). C.S. Lewis put it this way, "The next best thing to being wise oneself is to live in a circle of those who are."

## DAY 2

### READ PROVERBS 27:5-6

Want to know if you have good friends? Ask yourself this question, "Do my friends tell me things I don't want to hear?" You know you have good friends if your answer is "yes". You know you need new friends if all you get from your friend is approval. You know they're a "keeper" if they keep you on track. As today's passage points out, love speaks up. It isn't love for our friend that keeps us from saying something. Love is willing to wound a friend by bringing up what you know your friend needs to hear. The goal is give life before a bad decision brings sad consequences. So what kind of friend are you? Are you willing to speak up?

## DAY 3

### READ JOHN 15:12-15

Having trouble finding friends? There are seasons when finding a good friend feels pointless. No matter how hard you try, no one seems to have time for you. Maybe things just don't click or they seem to have all the friends they need. That's when it is important to remember that at the heart of the Christian experience is a friendship. As today's passage so powerfully shares: Jesus is our first friend. All the things a great friend does, Jesus has done for you. He listens, encourages, loves, gives great advice, includes you in His life, and has sacrificed for you. There are times of deep friendship and times when you will be searching. In every season, Jesus can be your closest companion.

## DAY READ PROVERBS 20:6

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Friendship is one of life's greatest treasures. In Proverbs 20:6 it says, "Many claim to have unfailing love, but a faithful person who can find?" Translation: talk is cheap, real friends are priceless. The real friends are the ones who show up when you need it. They are willing to put you first. They enjoy being with you. They talk the same in front of you as behind your back. Real friends are the real deal. The thing is, sometimes we don't realize it when we have it. Even worse, we can take them for granted. Have you been overlooking someone valuable in your life recently? How can you show them how much they mean to you?

## DAY PROVERBS 27:9

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Are you the friend that gives terrible advice? Have you ever noticed that in most romantic comedies there are three main characters? There is the girl, the guy, and the friend who gives bad advice. The girl and guy always end up together but only if they ignore the bad advice. If your life was a movie, what role would you be playing? Today's Proverb talks about how good advice brings life and joy to the one who needs it. God gives us friends to help us go the direction He wants for our lives. The best friends point others to a big God. So who are you listening to and should people be listening to you?

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