

STUDY GUIDE: “Friends”

Discussion Starters

1. Who is your best friend? Why?
2. What makes someone a good friend?

Study

This study guide is designed to follow up the sermon “Friends” at NOCC on 8/19/18. If you weren’t in worship at NOCC that Sunday, listen to the sermon on nocc.org or the NOCC app.

3. Read the following passages and note what the Bible says about friends.

Proverbs 17:17

John 15:12-14

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Proverbs 27:9

4. EXTRA CREDIT: Using a Topical Bible, look for stories of friends from scripture. List some of those accounts here. What made them memorable?

To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Dictionary. Remember, the words listed below are from the NASU, but the word you are trying to define is the Greek or Hebrew word translated by the NASU—NOT the English word. If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

5. Define the following words or terms. Note for each of them how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage, and why you think this word was chosen.

--“sharpens” (Proverbs 27:17)

--“loves” (Proverbs 17:17)

--“counsel” (Proverbs 27:9)

--“wounds” (Proverbs 27:6)

--“love” (John 15:13)

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6. The Bible is full of practical reasons why we need friends. What is the practical reason in Ecclesiastes 4:9-10?

7. What could the aforementioned scripture represent spiritually between friends? Give practical examples.

8. Using Jesus’ word for love in John 15:13, what kind of friend are we called to be?

Taking It Home

9. How many friends do you have like this? If you do not have any, what will you do to change that?

10. Are you a biblically good friend? If not, what will you do to change that?