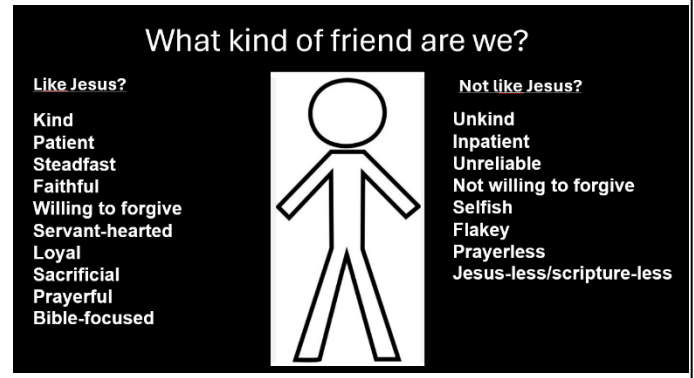


Dig Deeper into friendship in Proverbs...

- Friendship can be great!
- Friendships can be dangerous...be careful
- Jesus – friend of sinners
- What kind of friends are we?



Pick and choose what your group would find most helpful. There are lots of questions, so don't feel like you need to go through them all!

Friendships can be great

Read these verses: share an encouragement you may have enjoyed through the God-given good gift of friendship.

Proverbs 27:9

Proverbs 17:17

Friendships can be dangerous...be careful

Read these verses: a loving warning to be discerning with who we are truly/deeply friends with.

Proverbs 13:20

Proverbs 22:24-25

Proverbs 12:26

As asked in the sermon, discuss further

- 1) Does this mean we shouldn't have non-Christian friends?
- 2) Does this mean we shouldn't befriend people who are difficult?

Questions to help with that

1. Is there a difference between being friends and being friendly? If so, what is the difference?
2. Can we be really close friends with people and not be influenced by them?
3. If we have really close friends who are not Christians, how might these proverbs speak into this?
4. How does looking at Jesus' life help us understand these verses from proverbs?
5. Where/who might be influencing us in a way which these proverbs is warning us against? (Consider the coloured pieces in the bowl illustration)

Jesus – friend of sinners

Read these verses (or share others which have examples of Jesus' friendship) and spend some time in prayers of praise that Jesus is all those things in the lefthand column in the image at the top (and much more!)

Proverbs 18:24

John 15:12-13

What kind of friend are we?

A chance to ask for advice or prayer on being a more Jesus-like friend

1. Are there any situations you are currently in where you'd value advice in what it might look like to be a Jesus-like friend?
2. Are there any areas of friendship in which you particularly struggle to be a Jesus-like friend? (There will be for all of us).