

DAY 6

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Romans 12:10 NIV

Everyone loves to be celebrated! Good friends deserve to be honored. Honoring quality friendships can be a great way to grow as a friend. Think of the times that your friends have honored you through forgiveness, being trustworthy, showing up for you, and giving you space to be yourself. Honoring friendships isn't the easiest thing to do because as the verse reminds us, to honor someone else, you will have to put your friends before yourself.

Find some time today to send a note or text, or make an intentional comment expressing gratitude to a friend who has been there for you. This may feel like a small gesture, but your words can have a huge impact on their day!

DAY 7

Memory Verse: Do to others as you would like them to do to you.

Luke 6:31 NLT

This verse reminds us how important it is to treat the people around us with the same kindness we would want people to treat us. Spend some time right now and later today committing this verse to memory. You might want to write this verse down several times or turn to Luke 6:31 and highlight it in your Bible to help you begin to memorize it.

As you spend time memorizing this verse, remember that we memorize verses like this to allow the Scriptures to transform our lives by helping us live the way God says is best.

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN
everyday faith.

HOW TO FRIEND / WEEK 1

HIGH SCHOOL

DAY 1

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Luke 6:31 NIV

Friendship is a two-way street. We may have an idea of what we want in a friend, but have we considered asking what a friend might be looking for in us? What if instead of focusing so much on what we want to get from someone else, we focused on treating them the way they want to be treated? This is what Jesus told his followers to do, and the thing about a healthy friendship is, when you treat others well, often you are treated well in return.

Today, instead of thinking about what you might get from someone else, think of a way to treat a friend in a way that honors them and what they want.

DAY 2

There are “friends” who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother.

Proverbs 18:24 NLT

One of the best ways to find real friends is to start being a real friend to others. Here's what I mean: Do you know who trustworthy people like to hang out with? Other trustworthy people. Do you know who loyal people like to hang out with? Other loyal people. Sometimes getting the friend we want, means BEING the friend we want. And who doesn't want a friend to walk with us through all seasons of life? Instead of getting frustrated with your fake friends, focus on being a real friend—the kind of friend you want to attract!

Today, think of one quality you're looking for in a real friend. Then, ask God to help you start manifesting that quality in your own life this week.

DAY 3

Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.

Proverbs 13:20 NIV

Have you ever had “foolish” friends? Maybe you have had the type of friends who have gotten you in trouble at home or influenced you to make an unwise choice. Have you ever had “wise” friends? This type of friend will sit with you when you need to talk, be slow to react, and tell you in a kind way when you mess up. Wise friends help us to grow in ways we didn’t know possible and they challenge us to think of things from the perspective of Jesus.

Picking the right type of friend matters. Today, think about the friends in your life you would describe as wise and write down the attributes you look for in a wise friend.

DAY 4

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

Proverbs 17:17 NIV

Have you ever been friends with someone just because they are in your class, on your team, or in your group project? A friend who, when things got challenging or inconvenient, bailed on you? It’s a terrible feeling to realize a friend was a friend because it was easy, and nowhere to be found when things got hard. True friends stick with you through all seasons of life and they care about who you are—not just what you can do for them. When you go through tough times, it’s helpful to have real friends in our lives—friends who are willing to be with us through those challenging and difficult moments.

Today, ask God to help you find the kind of friends who are willing to be there for you no matter what and ask God to help you be that kind of friend.

DAY 5

Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14 NIV

Written by Chloe, age 19

From Taylorsville, GA, USA

Everyone wants to be loved and cared for by their friends, but there can be times where a friend may talk bad about you or say something that isn’t true. In these moments, it can be hard to love the person that hurt you, and it can make you wonder if they’re even your friend. Instead of giving that person a taste of their own medicine, try loving them even more. I know, that may not seem normal, but God wants us to “Do everything in love.” By loving your friend even when they upset you, you are being the type of friend you want to have. Everyone wants to have caring, kind, and loving friends, so we should practice those qualities and treat our friends the way we want them to treat us.

I struggled with this my senior year. One of my best friends went behind my back and said some harsh things about me that weren’t true. It caused some of my other friends to stop talking to me, and it hurt my feelings—I mean really hurt my feelings.

I wanted to get back at them, but I knew that would do me no good. Instead, I chose to continue to treat them with love and kindness even though they had upset me beyond words. I had to pray for strength and comfort, but I trusted that God wanted to use me for God’s own glory.

This week, choose to be the friend that shows love to those around you, even when it’s hard to do.