

The Basics of Friendship

Thursday Evening

You can always tell a real friend: when you've made a fool of yourself and he doesn't feel you've done a permanent job. ~Laurence J. Peter

Breakdown of Social Circles - the average person has:

- **Close friends:** 3 to 5 people you trust deeply and confide in.
- **Active social circle:** 10 to 15 people you regularly see or talk to.
- **Acquaintances:** 100 to 150 people whom you know by name and interact with occasionally.

Factors Impacting Friendship Numbers

- **Age:** Younger adults often report having fewer close friends than older adults, who may have more stable, long-term social ties.
- **Surveys:** Roughly 8% of adults report having no close friends at all.

What are some of the key ingredients of friendship? When a relationship...

1. Provides _____ perspective _____.
2. Brings _____ unforced _____ joy.
3. Challenges you with their admirable _____ character _____.
4. Is _____ safe _____ enough to allow you to be significantly vulnerable.
5. Delivers appropriate _____ accountability _____.
6. Creates _____ rituals _____.
7. _____ Shares _____ sacred history.

Biblical Perspective

Proverbs 17:17, Proverbs 18:24 & John 15:13-15

Pair and Share - Who is someone that has been a true friend to you? Or which one of Jesus' disciples do you wish you could have had a friendship with?