
It's a job to be Job!

FRIENDSHIPS

Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.

LESSON 9

1. What truth, verse, or insight from the previous study of **Job 3** was helpful to you?
2. Pray something like this: "Lord, if You were here (and You are), what would You want me to learn about friendship from Your point of view?"
 - a) How would you define the word "friend?" (use dictionary if necessary)

- b) Describe how you've experienced friendship on the giving **or** receiving end.

3. a) What are some of the characteristics of a good friend?

Proverbs 17:17 _____

Proverbs 27:9 _____

Proverbs 27:10a _____

- b) What do you learn about being a good friend from Paul and his friends?

Acts 19:30-31 _____

Acts 24:23 _____

2 Corinthians 12:19 _____

4. The Bible has many examples of good friendships that encourage and instruct us. Perhaps the most profound example is the friendship of David and Jonathan in **1 Samuel 20**.
 - a) Summarize the tough situation going on between David, Jonathan and King Saul (Jonathan's father).

- b) What qualities do you see exhibited in David and Jonathan's friendship?

- c) In light of their circumstances, what inspires you in your friendships as you read Jonathan's parting words to David in **V42**?

5. What is your favorite aspect of friendship from **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**?

6. What does **Proverbs 27:6** say about friends and what do you think it means?

7. a) What do the following verses say about friends who prove to be false or fickle?

Psalms 55:12-14 _____

Proverbs 16:28 _____

Proverbs 17:9 _____

Proverbs 19:4, 6-7 _____

b) Identify the ways some people fail as friends?

Deuteronomy 13:6-8 _____

Psalms 38:11 _____

Psalms 109:3-5 _____

8. a) Some "friends" can influence you negatively. How did Haman's friends in **Esther 5:9-14** lead him astray?

b) What is your 'takeaway' from this example of friendship?

9. a) Challenge: What would be your Biblical reasons **to maintain** a friendship **or not** with:

- Non-believing friends?

- Believing friends who are in habitual or unrepentant sin?

b) How does Paul affirm or challenge your thinking as he addressed church life in **1 Corinthians 5:9-13**?

10. Who were pointed out as God's friends and why?

Exodus 33:11a _____

James 2:23 _____

11. What types of people did Jesus befriend in **Matthew 11:19** and **26:47-50**?

12. a) Jesus is the perfect Friend. What attributes does He have that makes Him that perfect Friend?

b) What warms your heart about Jesus as your Friend in **John 15:13-15**?

13. This Lesson on friendship will set us up well as we will soon observe "**It's a job to be Job**" given how challenging his friends will become (**Job 4-37**). As you think about the friends you have:

a) What warnings from this Lesson will you take to heart?

b) What new ways of being a good friend will you put into practice?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. a) What criterion do you use when choosing friends?

b) What guidance does Scripture *indirectly* give about choosing friends:

Positively: **Proverbs 27:17**

Negatively: **1 Corinthians 15:33**

2. Take note of Hushai's character as you read or skim **2 Samuel 15:1-17:23**. How was Hushai a good choice of a friend for David?

3. How were Daniel's friends a support to him in **Daniel 2**?

4. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: **John 15:13**

b) Form a prayer on some aspect of friendship.

