

LESSON 12

# WHY FRIENDSHIP?

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## *The Need for Friendship*

Our friends are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

*Friendship is a form of shared love,  
a celebration of God's image in others.*

Through friendship, we have . . .

- \_\_\_\_\_  
We often spend time with people simply because we enjoy their company.
- \_\_\_\_\_  
We can also help friends when they struggle (Eccl. 4:9-12).
- \_\_\_\_\_  
We find belonging with Christians who come from different backgrounds but are all God's children.
- \_\_\_\_\_  
We can learn from wiser, more mature friends (cf. Prov. 27:17).

Acquaintances	Number	100
	Interaction	Superficial, mainly about light, positive topics
	Dependency	Low
Good Friends	Number	20-50
	Interaction	Some depth, with possibility of encouragement and correction
	Dependency	Low
Close Friends	Number	10
	Interaction	More vulnerability, with emotional depth and intimacy
	Dependency	High, with emotional distress if separated
Best Friends	Number	1-3
	Interaction	Absolute vulnerability and intimacy; often in marriage
	Dependency	Extreme; critical

### *The Purpose of Friendship*

- A good friendship will reflect God's love and truth.
- It will celebrate His character and work.
- It will help bring His children closer to Him.