

## How do we choose our close friends?

**2 Timothy 2:14-26**

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*1 Corinthians 15:33; 2 Corinthians 6:14*

**Hebrews 10:19-25; Romans 12:1-2**

### **A godly friend: Publicly p \_\_\_\_\_ faith in Christ**

**Hebrews 10:23 “Profession”**

- † Homologeō = to speak the same thing (*Matthew 10:32*).
- † So, our lives, both public and private, should line up with, agree with, speak the same as the Word of God.

### **A godly friend: S \_\_\_\_\_ you, gets to know your inner being**

**Hebrews 10:24 “Consider”**

- † To perceive clearly, understand fully, study close.
- † One cannot truly say that they understand and clearly perceive another individual unless they really are enjoying a relationship of fellowship with that person.

### **A godly friend: S \_\_\_\_\_ you on toward love & good deeds**

**Hebrews 10:24 “Provoke”**

- † To stimulate, incite (to love and to good works).
- † An intimate and ever-deepening level of fellowship will know just how to incite and provoke the other towards love and good works.

### **A godly friend: H \_\_\_\_\_ you accountable to your commitments**

**Hebrews 10:25 “Exhorting”**

- † Parakaleō = to call to a person, beseech, exhort, admonish, urge one to pursue some course of action / conduct.
- † Church assembles together to exhort believers to adhere to and obey the Word of God and His commandments therein, keeping self and others accountable.

### **A godly friend: Joint participant in m \_\_\_\_\_ of Church**

**1 John 1:7 “Fellowship”**

- † Joint participation with Christ = vertical before horizontal
- † Our relationship with God (God is light 1 John 1:5) is deepened via fellowship, as is the church (we can't separate God and the church).

### **A godly friend: Walks in o \_\_\_\_\_ to the Word of God**

**1 John 1:7 “Walk in the light” = obedience to God's commands**

- † As we “walk in the light”, our v \_\_\_\_\_ relationship is nurtured, strengthened, and deepened.
- † *1 Corinthians 1:9*
- † *2 Corinthians 6:14*
- † *Philippians 2:1*
- † *1 John 1:3*
- † Subsequently, our fellowship “one with another” with those around us is nurtured, strengthened, and deepened – h \_\_\_\_\_ relationships.
- † *Romans 8:1*
- † Apart from church – encouragement, exhortation, admonishment, confrontation, and holding each other accountable are impossible.

### **A godly friend: C \_\_\_\_\_ their personal sins to you**

**James 5:16 ; 1 John 1:8-10**

- † *Romans 3:23* What are some ways we deny our sin?
- † *2 Cor. 7:10-11* Do you seek help?
- † *John 8:31-32* By denying our sin, we live in sin (presenting ourselves as nice rather than forgiven).
- † To sin is to break fellowship. To continue this course of action is to further aggravate and further the gap between those around us. When our fellowship with God is out of line, it is guaranteed that our fellowship with others will be, too.

### **A godly friend: Takes proactive steps of c \_\_\_\_\_ in their lives**

**Do you seek help in your battle with sin?**

**Ephesians 4:22-24**

- † “Put o \_\_\_\_\_, renew the mind, put on”

**Romans 6 commands**

- † “Know, reckon and yield”

**Romans 12:1,2; Galatians 5:16**

- † “Walk in the Spirit and you will not fulfill lusts of the flesh”

**2 Corinthians 7:8-11**

- † Change of heart followed by convincing actions  
*Result? Christ's sacrifice on our behalf apprehended / appreciated.*