

Carry the Light

Prov. 17:17, 18:24, 27:6, 9-10, 17

SUPER FRIEND DAY 2017



Prov. 17:17 **A friend loveth at all times**, and a brother is born for adversity.

Prov. 18:24 **A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly**: and **there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother**.

Prov. 27:6 **Faithful are the wounds of a friend**; but the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful.

9 Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so **doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel**.

10 **Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not**; neither go into thy brother's house in the day of thy calamity: *for better is a neighbour that is near than a brother far off*.

17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so **a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend**.



Our new theme for 2017 is “Carry the Light.”

On January first, we looked the...

THE INTRINSIC POWER and THE ILLUMINATING PURPOSE
of light in regard to the woman taken in adultery in Jn. 8.

A couple of weeks ago we began looking at Joseph,
and how he “*carried the light*” into Egypt.

Carrying the Light from the Pit to the Palace

I. THE INDIVIDUAL PLAN FORETOLD

- The Inclusive Picture
- The Individual Purpose
- The Inspirational Performance



When we are introduced to the life of Joseph he is seventeen years old. What happened during the first seventeen years to prepare him for his future?

II. THE INDIVIDUAL PREPARATION FOR FAITHFULNESS

A. The Dedication of Parents

B. The Deception of Perception

- Trials of our faith are the challenging parts of our spiritual development.

C. The Development of Priorities

III. THE INDIVIDUAL PRESENCE OF FAILURE

A. The Reality of Failure

Everyone fails somewhere, some way, some how. The only one Who never fails is the Lord and His love!



B. The Reaction to Failure

When something bad happens, you have three choices:

1. Let it define you.
2. Let it destroy you.
3. Let it strengthen you.

Phil. 4:13 I can do all things **through Christ which strengtheneth me.**

C. The Remedy for Failure

Failure is a setback that is only a delay to accomplishing the objective.

Phil. 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, **forgetting those things which are behind**, and **reaching forth** unto those things which are before,

14 **I press toward the mark** for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

IV. THE INDIVIDUAL PERCEPTION FOR THE FUTURE

“SUPER FRIEND DAY 2017”





**WHAT IS A FRIEND?
A SINGLE SOUL
DWELLING IN
TWO BODIES.**

ARISTOTLE

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F . R . I . E . N . D . S .

Fight for you.

Respect you.

Include you.

Encourage you.

Need you.

Deserve you.

Stand by you.

“CLOSE FRIENDS ARE TRULY LIFE’S TREASURES. SOMETIMES THEY KNOW US BETTER THAN WE KNOW OURSELVES. WITH GENTLE HONESTY, THEY ARE THERE TO GUIDE AND SUPPORT US, TO SHARE OUR LAUGHTER AND OUR TEARS. THEIR PRESENCE REMINDS US THAT WE ARE NEVER REALLY ALONE.”

https://www.google.com/search?q=%22friend%22+quotes&biw=1360&bih=836&site=webhp&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewiU_P-ex_fRAhUDslQKHSg2AO4QsAQIqwE#q=%22friend%22+quotes&tbm=isch&tbs=rimg:CS6qmPFV0uoAljiHRW33MdPmnavLOZAToB7fLITjoH7eiYaRYG5HbUIGKrTYtKDpBBVjydkInOviviJ2NJo1xkoISoSCYdFbfcx0-adEQYswTNJzxCgKhlJp9q8s5kBOgEREZsH9D-6FxlqEgnt8shOOgft4hEMMWdKhCmlCoSCRhpFgbkdtQgEYtivKFbQ8ISKHJYqtNi0oOkEERwTbZ4UuJlG4qEglWPJ2Qic6-KxF6o3GSE_1LIFCoScnY0mjXGSghEWcrEQAlvBu&imgcr=EAYnsFozviuJM:

**"A BEST FRIEND CAN TELL YOU THINGS
YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL YOURSELF."**

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A. A FRIEND PROMOTES PERSONAL INSPIRATION

1. Inspiration for Illumination

Prov. 27:9 Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so *doth* **the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.**

- Hearty counsel originates in the soul of a true friend.

Hearty < nephesh: a soul, living being, life, self, person, desire, passion, appetite, and emotion.

<http://biblehub.com/hebrew/5315.htm>



Psa. 33:11 The **counsel** of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Prov. 12:15 The way of a fool *is* right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto **counsel** *is* wise.

Prov. 19:21 *There are* **many devices in a man's heart**; nevertheless the **counsel** of the LORD, that shall stand.

Prov. 20:5 **Counsel** in the heart of man *is like* deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out.

- A true friend listens with the heart, and “draws” out the troubles of the friend’s soul.



2. Inspiration for Implementation

Prov. 18:24 A man *that hath* friends must shew himself friendly: and **there is a friend *that sticketh closer than a brother.***

Original Word: דָּבַק

Transliteration: dabeq

Short Definition: attached

Deut. 4:4 But ye that did **cleave** unto the LORD your God *are* alive every one of you this day.

2 Chron. 3:12 And *one* wing of the other cherub *was* five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house: and the other wing *was* five cubits *also*, **joining** to the wing of the other cherub.



Original Word: παράκλητος

Transliteration: paraklétos

Definition: (a) an advocate, intercessor, (b) a consoler, comforter, helper, (c) Paraclete.

paráklētos (from *pará*, "from close-beside" and *kaléō*, "make a call") – properly, a *legal advocate* who makes the right judgment-*call* because *close* enough to the situation.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/3875.htm>

Jn. 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another **Comforter**, that he may abide with you for ever; ...

26 But the **Comforter**, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.



1 Jn. 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an **advocate** with the Father, **Jesus Christ the righteous**:

- The Friend that sticks closer than a brother is the Lord Jesus Christ!
- With a Friend like Jesus, we can always have hope for the future!

B. A FRIEND PROTECTS PRIVATE INFORMATION

1. Trust Produces Tenderness in Guidance

Prov. 27:17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so **a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.**



- A friend will reveal personal challenges to one who is trusted not to tell others.

Psa. 25:14 **The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him**; and **he will shew them** his covenant.

Prov. 11:13 **A talebearer revealeth secrets**: but he that is of **a faithful spirit** concealeth the matter.

Pro 20:19 He that goeth about *as* **a talebearer revealeth secrets**: therefore **meddle not with him** that flattereth with his lips.



- Stay away from the phony friends.
- A true friend will give guidance that is continually motivated by love.

Prov. 17:17a “**A friend loveth at all times...**”

2. Trust Provides Truth with Grace

Prov. 27:6 **Faithful are the wounds of a friend**; but the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful.

- A true friend may “wound” us by sharing truth that is difficult to hear.
- One pretending to be a friend enamors us with deceitful affection – a kiss.
- God shares His secrets with the righteous.



Prov. 3:32 For the froward *is* abomination to the LORD:
but his secret *is* with the righteous.

- We can share our hearts with those who proved they could be trusted.
- God rewards those whose secret loyalties are genuinely motivated.

Mt. 6:4 That thine alms may be in secret: and **thy Father which seeth in secret** himself shall **reward thee** openly. ...

6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to **thy Father which is in secret;** and **thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.** ...

18 That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and **thy Father, which seeth in secret,** shall **reward thee openly.**



C. A FRIEND PRODUCES POWERFUL ILLUMINATION

1. Illumination to See More Clearly

Psa. 41:9 Yea, **mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted**, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up *his* heel against me.

Mt. 26:50 And Jesus said unto him, **Friend**, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took him.

- Jesus called Judas His friend, a trusted friend, who betrayed His trust.

Zech. 13:6 And *one* shall say unto him, What *are* these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, **Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.**



- Sometimes we learn that some of our friends were not true friends.
- Consequently, through trials we learn those who are our true friends.

Jn. 15:14 **Ye are my friends, if** ye do whatsoever I command you.

2. Illumination of Self Manifested Clearer

Psa. 91:1 **He that dwelleth** in the secret place of the most High **shall abide** under the shadow of the Almighty.





Conclusion

- Our hope for the future is encouraged by our Friendship with Christ.

Prov. 18:24 A man *that hath* friends must shew himself friendly: and **there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.**

Heb. 13:5 *Let your conversation be* without covetousness; *and be* content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, **I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**

Psa. 9:10 And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for **thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.**