

NSD Notes

For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. (1 Cor. 9:19)
Volume 3 No. 5 August 2, 2009

Services

- Bible Study 10 a.m.
- Morning Service.....11 a.m.
- Evening Service.....6 p.m.
- Wednesday Meeting.....7 p.m.

News @ NSD

WELCOME VISITORS!

Prayer List

- **Ernest Peeples** - deployed in Iraq.
- **Jason Henderson** – travels often for work.
- **Ken Holloway** will undergo surgery this Thursday, August 6, please pray that all goes well with the surgery.
- **Martha Holloway** - recurring back and heart condition.
- **Jana Wells** – recurring respiratory condition.
- Marie Adams – had her hip surgery last week; recovering at home.
- **Vicki Barton's** mother, Lisa – recovering well but keep praying for her full recovery.
- **Ken Holloway's** brother, Chuck.
- Also keep **Cassandra Fredrickson** and **Samantha Wilson** in your prayers.

SHAKE HANDS AND BE FRIENDLY

Bubba Garner

Some of our relationships are the result of circumstances that are beyond our control. You've probably heard the story of the teenager who was arguing with his parents and said, "I didn't ask to be born into this family." The father replied, "We didn't get to choose who we got, either." But our friends are different—we handpick them. We choose to be around certain people because we share common interests and grow together through common experiences.

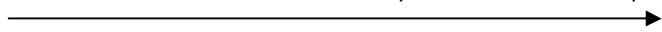
*A man who has friends
must himself be friendly,
and there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother*

PROVERBS 18:24

There was a recent poll of some third and fourth graders about the qualities they look for in a friend. Their responses demonstrated maturity beyond their years. One of them said they want "someone who is so unbossy" and who "doesn't get drunk." I didn't realize that was a problem for nine-year-olds. Another one wrote down, "someone who lets people play with us, who is honest, trustworthy, a good student." Only, she misspelled the word "student." Another said, "someone who treats people like they want to be treated. Someone who helps others, who tries to live a right life, who does not think he or she is better than other people." One of them only put one thing down on the card, "someone who does not lie to me." Still another gave one of my favorite lines of them all, "Someone who does not think money is their life."

There is a simple way to find what you're looking for in your friends. It is stated in what has come to be known as the Golden Rule: "However you want people to treat you, so treat them, for this is the Law and the Prophets" (**Matthew 7:12**). In other words, you don't have the right to expect people to behave in a certain way when you're not willing to act that way yourself. If you want to have a true friend, you need to be a true friend. According to an E-mail proverb, the best vitamin for making friends is B1.

Be loyal and your friends will be loyal. "A friend loves at all times" (**Proverbs 17:17**). That means that a true friend is always available. They



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All are welcome to our worship
and study meetings!

... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs
with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **Col 3:16**

LORD, who may abide in Your
tabernacle?

Who may dwell in Your holy hill?

He who walks uprightly
And works righteousness
And speaks the truth in his heart

He who does not backbite with his
tongue

Nor does evil to his neighbor

Nor does he take up a reproach against
his friend

Psalm 15:1-3

We are walking by faith and not by sight
Willing to serve our Lord aright
Knowing the will of God above
That the greatest of all is love

We have learned to love Him with all our
heart
Trying each day to do our part
Loving our neighbor and our God
Thus fulfilling our Savior's word

The greatest of all is love
Sent down from the Father above
Now abideth faith and hope and love
But the greatest of all is love

R. J. Stevens

[..Be Friendly]

rejoice and do not envy you when encounter success. They weep and do not desert you when you fail. While many people seem to walk in and out of your life after playing their part, the loyal friend is with you in every stage. Aristotle once defined friendship as "one soul in two bodies." That's something that is not easily parted.

Be honest and your friends will be honest. "*Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but deceitful are the kisses of an enemy*" (**Proverbs 27:6**). Surely that's a typo, right? How can the wounds of a friend be faithful? They will tell you what you need to hear in a way that demonstrates their love and loyalty to you. They are interested in your betterment, even when it means saying something that's not too easy to say. While your enemies will lift you up to gain an advantage, your true friends will tell it like it is to bring you back down to earth. If that's the kind of friend you want, be that kind of friend.

**Do not forsake your own friend
or your father's friend**
PROVERBS 27:10

Be trustworthy and your friends will be trustworthy. "*He who covers a transgression seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates intimate friends*" (**Proverbs 17:9**). There are few betrayals that rival a scattered secret that was told in confidence. As one little boy eloquently put it, "he stabbed me in the back—right in front of my face!" It is a violation of trust that is difficult to recapture and, as the wise man suggests, has the power to separate the soul split between two bodies. But the one who can keep a secret will have friends who will do the same.

Be attentive and your friends will be attentive. "*Like one who takes off a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar on soda, is he who sings songs to a troubled heart*" (**Proverbs 25:20**). Friends don't always need your advice; sometimes they just need your shoulder.

It is important to have friends and to be friendly. And perhaps the best friend we can ever have is the one who will help us become the friend of God. Anyone who is unwilling to do that ought to be counted an enemy.

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