

Community Is . . . Friends

Scripture Reading — Proverbs 17:17

A friend loves at all times. . . . — Proverbs 17:17

Karissa switched schools in the middle of fourth grade. She left behind a lot of good friends whom she had known for years. Though she was sad to leave those friends, she was also excited to meet new people and make new friends. She has made some great friends at her new school, at church, and at the stables where she rides horses. She also stays in contact with some of her friends from her previous school as well.

Friendships aren't always easy. Friends go through seasons of trial, arguments, differences of opinion, and busy schedules. Along the way, new friends are made, and old friendships sometimes fade. Friends can influence us for good and for bad. Friendships can be a lot of work. But when they are at their best, friendships are also very rewarding. Real friends support us and also challenge us. They see us for who God intended us to be, and they help us grow in the grace and love of Christ.

The Bible contains stories of deep friendships. David and Jonathan's friendship is a great example of one that lasted through deep difficulties (1 Samuel 19-20). Friendships that endure are filled with love all the time.

Who are your friends? How are you supporting them and encouraging them? How are they supporting and encouraging you? Are your friendships filled with love at all times?

Prayer

Father, help us in our friendships to love each other as you have called us to love. In Jesus, Amen.

Devotion topics: [Bible](#), [Books of the Bible](#), [Proverbs](#), [Life](#), [Family & Relationships](#), [Christian Life](#), [Community](#)

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