

# Friendships are Intentional

## KEY VERSE:

***Proverbs 18:24 (NIV)*** A man who has friends must himself be friendly.

***If you want to have friends, then you have to be friendly!***

It's so easy to be consumed with ourselves, but God challenges us to be different.

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## **Committed**

*To be intentional is to be committed*

## ***Proverbs 18:24***

*(NIV) One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.*

*(NLT) There are friends who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother.*

We are not created to do life alone.

Need to be people who are committed to:

- Supporting others

- Our promises
  - Our responsibilities
  - Walking alongside others and doing life with them
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## **Considerate**

*To be intentional is to be considerate*

*Philippians 2:4 - Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others too*

*1 Corinthians 10:24 - No one should seek their own good, but the good of others.*

- Seek to serve and not be served
- Put others before you
- Be committed
- Seek to protect the other

But why? Why be considerate and thoughtful?  
Why be committed?

**Because of Jesus.**

**1 John 3:16-18** *This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.*

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### **Confidentiality**

*To be intentional is to be confidential*

#### **Proverbs 11:13**

*(NIV) A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret.*

#### **Proverbs 16:28b**

*(NIV) Gossip separates close friends*

- Be trustworthy
  - Protect your friends' reputation as you would a brothers or sisters
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## **Candid**

*To be intentional is to be candid*

***Proverbs 27:5-6a (niv)*** “Better is open rebuke, than hidden love. Wounds from a friend can be trusted...”

***Hebrews 10:24 (esv)***  
“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.”

***Proverbs 12:26, (nlt)***  
*The godly give good advice to their friends; the wicked lead them astray”.*

Sincere friends speak the truth in Love even when it hurts.

- Build the friendship out of honesty, trust and love
- Give good advice
- Don't play blame game
- Choose compassion over cynicism

## **Consistent**

*To be intentional is to be consistent*

***Proverbs 17:17a (msg)***

*“Friends love through all kinds of weather...”*

Loyal Friends love through all the times

- *Make time Connect*
- *Keep them accountable*
- *Be loyal*