

“RELATIONSHIPS: THE ENVIRONMENT FOR FLOURISHING”

Series: “Flourishing”, Part 5 of 6
Sunday, July 4, 2021 at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Text: Miscellaneous Scriptures

Big Idea: Relationships, more than any other human factor, usually determine the trajectory of our flourishing.

I. THE PROFILE OF A HEALTHY FRIENDSHIP.

A. Dependability.

“A friend loves at all times.” -Proverbs 17:17a

“Like a bad tooth or a lame foot is reliance on the unfaithful in times of trouble.”
-Proverbs 25:19

B. Directness.

“Wounds from a friend can be trusted.” -Proverbs 27:6a

“Better is open rebuke than hidden love.” -Proverbs 27:5

“He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise.” -Proverbs 15:31

C. Depth.

“The purposes of a man’s heart are deep waters, but a man of understanding draws them out.” -Proverbs 20:5

“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” -Proverbs 27:17

“And Saul’s son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God.”
-1 Samuel 23:16

“David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the LORD his God.” -1 Samuel 30:6

II. THE PRACTICE OF HEALTHY FRIENDSHIP.

A. Be selective in choosing friendships.

“A righteous man is cautious in friendship.” -Proverbs 12:26a

“Do not make friends with a hot-tempered man, do not associate with one easily angered, 25 or you may learn his ways and get yourself ensnared.” -Proverbs 22:24-25

B. Be slow in developing friendships.

“Seldom set foot in your neighbor’s house— too much of you, and he will hate you.”
-Proverbs 25:17

C. Be sagacious in guarding friendships.

“A man who stirs up dissension among brothers.” -Proverbs 6:19b

“A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends.”
-Proverbs 16:28

“The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to a man’s inmost parts.”
-Proverbs 18:8

“He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.” -Proverbs 17:9

“The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend.”
-Exodus 33:11a