

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of July 5th, 2015

This Week's Focus: Friendships

This Week's Text: Various Proverbs: 13:20; 17:9, 17; 18:24; 20:19; 22: 24-25; 24:1-2, 26; 27:5-6, 9, 17; 29:5

*Jesus Christ, on the cross, experienced what we should have experienced so he could basically say ... He was the perfect friend. He let you in. How much more emotional connection do you want? Look at his arms nailed open for you. How much more open do you want him to be? There's the ultimate friend. He lets you in" **Dr. Tim Keller***

*Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. **John 15:13***

Related Texts: 1 Corinthians 1:24, 30; John 15:12-17

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What was most inspiring about this week's text/sermon?
- Why did God say in Genesis 2:18 that "it is not good that man should be alone"? How does the Triune nature of God inform us of our need for friendship?
- If we are made in the image of God (Imago Dei) and meant for life in community, why do we purposely push away deep, abiding friendships?
- Discuss the following definition of friendship: "a trustworthy person with whom we mutually choose in love, to live life together, giving them special entry into our life for God's glory and our good."
- Read Proverbs 18:24. What does it mean that having many companions' leads to ruin? Explain how this verse points out the qualities of loyalty, trust, and reliability of a true friend.
- Read Proverbs 27:5-6. How does the first line of each verse relate? How does the second line of each verse relate? Why is it important that a true friend has access into your life? Reference Proverbs 17:17.

- Read Proverbs 27:9. Do you have a friend that brings you joy? Does he/she speak life-giving Gospel truth into your life? Are you that kind of friend?
- How do we avoid forming unhealthy friendships? Reference Proverbs 13:10, 24:1, 19:4, and 22:24-25. Does this mean we should not befriend non-Christians? Why is it true that the deepest friendships have Jesus Christ at their center?
- How do we find and become the true friend as described in Proverbs?
- What motivates us to be a true friend? Reference John 15:12-15.
- How do these passages help direct our focus to the Gospel and our participation in the mission of God's Church?
- What can we do, as a church, to develop deep friendships that bring God glory and work toward our sanctification?

Next Week's Text: Pride