

# F.R.I.E.N.D.S™

Five Top Qualities of a Friend										
Character Quality	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10



## How good a friend are you?

List the 5 top Friendship Qualities a voted on by the class. Rate yourself in each category on a scale of 1 to 10 (where 1 is awful and 10 is awesome). While rating yourself, take note which quality is your best, and which quality needs a bit of work on.

# F.R.I.E.N.D.S<sup>TM</sup>

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

1 John 4:7-12



1. Underline the words and phrases that describe love in the above passage.
2. How do these qualities of love compare with our class chart?
3. Explain what each bible verse has to say about love.

verse 7 \_\_\_\_\_

verse 8 \_\_\_\_\_

verse 9 \_\_\_\_\_

verse 10 \_\_\_\_\_

verse 11 \_\_\_\_\_

verse 12 \_\_\_\_\_

4. What are the characteristics of this love that cause us to be better friends? These sayings contain some of the basic components of love.

A person of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Proverbs 18:24

Characteristic \_\_\_\_\_

Shows proper respect to everyone:  
Love the brotherhood of believers,  
fear God, and honor the king.

1 Peter 2:17

Characteristic \_\_\_\_\_



Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of one's friend springs from his earnest counsel.

Proverbs 27:9

Characteristic \_\_\_\_\_

A Gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret

Proverbs 11:13

Characteristic \_\_\_\_\_

Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.

Proverbs 27:6

Characteristic \_\_\_\_\_

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:4

Characteristic \_\_\_\_\_

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Romans 12:10

Characteristic \_\_\_\_\_

## Prayer of St Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.

Where there is hatred let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Master, grant that I may not so much seek to  
be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

# Influence Or Outfluenc



Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:1-2

Do not conform to

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Or as J.B. Phillips translated this;

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What do you think the world's mold or pattern is?

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Under what circumstances might you feel pressured or squeezed?

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What is it that makes certain voices louder than others?

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**The Bible makes 2 major  
suggestions to us on how  
to deal with  
bad influences;**

## Suggestion number one:

. . . if sinners entice you, do not give in to them. If they say, "Come along with us; let's lie in wait for someone's blood, let's waylay some harmless soul; . . . my friend, do not go along with them, do not set foot on their paths; for their feet rush into sin, they are swift to shed blood. . . . These people lie in wait for their own blood; they waylay only themselves!

Proverbs 1:10-11, 15-16, 18.

Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evil people.

Proverbs 4:14

A righteous person is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Proverbs 12:26

Do not envy wicked people, do not desire their company;

Proverbs 24:1

What is one method that the bible suggests when facing negative influences?

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In what way might this suggestion be useful?

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# The second suggestion:

He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm. Proverbs 13:10

What might this mean to the way in which you relate to others?

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What are some of the problems or predicaments that you or your friends often fall into?

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## Jesus said;

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:14-16

What then is our responsibility?

To others? \_\_\_\_\_

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To ourselves? \_\_\_\_\_

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Submit to pressure from peers and you move down to their level.

Speak up for your own beliefs and you invite them up to your level.

If you move with the crowd, you'll get no further than the crowd.

When 20 million people believe in a dumb idea – it's still a dumb idea.

Simply swimming with the tide leaves you nowhere.

So, if you believe in something that's good, honest, and bright – stand up for it.

Maybe some of your peers will drift your way.

# *friendly* **FIRE**

We need to get

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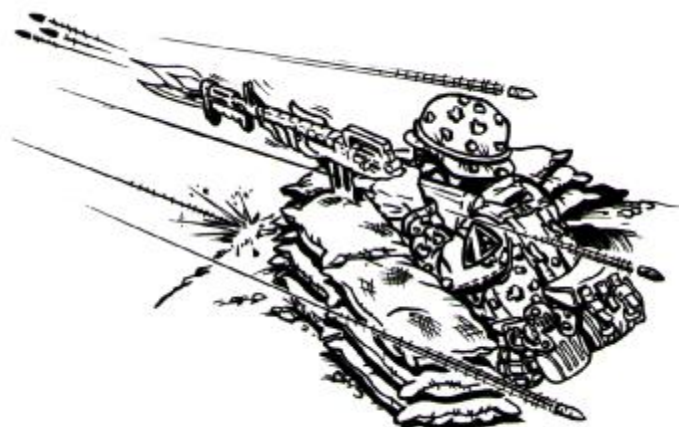
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The bible makes the following suggestion;

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

James 1:19

How might this help in resolving conflicts?



# Real Friendships

Real	Verse	How??
R E S O L V E	Proverbs 15:1	
	Ephesians 4:26	
E R A S E	Proverbs 10:12	
	Colossians 3:13	
A V O I D	Proverbs 17:14	
	Proverbs 11:12	
L E A R N	Proverbs 27:17	
	Proverbs 13:10	

# Our Common Bonds

I enjoy the same hobby	I am in the same sporting club	I have the same favorite TV program	I have the same colour hair	I was born in the same year
I was born on the same day of any month	I get to school by the same method (car, bus, walk)	I have the same name (first, middle or last)	My family buys groceries at the same shop	I live in the same neighborhood
I had the same food for breakfast today	I have the same favorite colour	I have the same favorite teacher	My family owns the same brand of car	I have read the same book recently
I have run in the same race at a sports day	I am in the same house at school	I have the same favorite actor/actress	I support the same AFL team	I like the same type of dessert
I have exactly the same number of brothers and sisters	I was born in the same month	I have the same length hair	I have been to see the same movie at the theatre recently	I like the same music group



# *When Everything Cliques*

What is a clique?

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How do they develop?

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Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interest of others.

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God,  
Did not consider equality with God something  
to be grasped, but made himself nothing taking  
the very nature of a servant.

Philippians 2:3-6

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praises to God

Romans 15:7

What are the qualities and attitudes that the Bible urges us to display in our friendships?

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What's the worst thing that could happen if you tried to befriend someone outside your present circle of friends?

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What's the best thing that could happen?

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We thank you God for our friends.  
Our dear friends.  
We anger each other.  
We fail each other.  
We share this earth, this tender life,  
this precious time.  
Such richness. Such wilderness.  
Together we are blown about.  
Together we are dragged along.  
All this delight.  
All this suffering.  
All this forgiving life.  
We hold it together  
Amen

