

Thankful for my friend Day

“Being and Having a Real Friend”

Who are your real friends?

Rank yourself on a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 is a horrible friend and 10 is the ultimate in friendship

1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10

Why did you rank yourself where you did? How could you become a better friend?

What does the Bible say about real friendship?

1. Real friends **know you** and still **love you**.

*“A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”
Prov. 18:24*

2. Real friends don't care about what **you have**; they care about **who you are**.

“The poor are shunned even by their neighbors, but the rich have many friends.” Prov. 14:20

3. Real friends will **tell you the truth**.

“Better is open rebuke than hidden love. The kisses of an enemy may be profuse, but faithful are the wounds of a friend.” Pr. 27:5-6

4. Real friends will **forgive you**.

“He who covers over an offense promotes love...” Prov. 17:9

5. Real friends are **with you** no matter what.

“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.” Pr. 17:17

“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.” John 15:13-15

Discussion Starters for This Week’s Groups InCommon

1. What do you look for in people that allow you to consider them as friends?
2. What are some of the things the Bible says to be aware of when choosing a friend?
3. Do you feel like you are a “friend of God”? What needs to happen to make friendship with God a reality?