

Friending Series
“Friend Request”

**Show me your friends and
I’ll show you your future.**

*Walk with the wise and become wise;
associate with fools and get in trouble.*

Proverbs 13:20 (NLT)

*Don’t befriend angry people or associate with hot-tempered
people, or you will learn to be like them and endanger your soul.*

Proverbs 22:24–25 (NLT)

List your closest friends:

Friendship defined:

*A friend is someone you may or may not know well who accepts
your friend Request on Facebook. This person is born to like and
comment on your posts and make you feel good about yourself.*

Proverbs 17:17 (FBV)

*A friend is always loyal,
and a brother is born to help in time of need.*

Proverbs 17:17 (NLT)

Why are friendships declining?

*Many will say they are loyal friends, but who can find one who is
truly reliable?*

Proverbs 20:6 (NLT)

- **Increasing work hours.**
- **Rising divorce rates.**
- **Explosion of social media.**

Rediscovering the Lost Art of Friendship:

Be present.

*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and
good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some
people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the
day of his return is drawing near.*

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

Get real.

*Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that
you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has
great power and produces wonderful results.*

James 5:16 (NLT)

*An open rebuke is better than hidden love! Wounds from a
sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.*

Proverbs 27:5-6 (NLT)

**We may impress people with our strengths but
We connect with people through our weaknesses.**

SO WHAT?

Make a friend request.

*So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other.
Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love
for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”*

John 13:34-35 (NLT)

Growth Group Questions

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. How many close friends can you list in your life right now?

Who on that list is your closest friend and how have they impacted your life?

2. When in your life have you had the most significant and genuine friends?

When in your life have you had a lack of these kinds of friends?

3. How has social media impacted your friendships for better or for worse?

4. Re-read Hebrews 10:24-25. How present are you in your friendships?

5. Re-read James 5:16. How real or transparent are you in your friendships?

What things keep you from having real and authentic friendships?

6. Do you have the right friends in your life right now?

Are you spending adequate times with those friends?

7. Who is one person in your life you want as a closer friend?