

The Adventure Begins

14 Devotions for New Believers

Faith-Filled Friends

Memorize This: If you love one another, everyone will know you are my disciples. - John 13:35 NIV

Big Idea: Faith-filled friends help us to become like Jesus.

Think About This:

Friends are great, aren't they? We get to do all kinds of fun things with our friends and create special memories together. However, when we have friends who are also friends of God, well, that can be even cooler, because our spiritual friends can actually help us to follow God better.

Jesus knew that all of us need to HAVE great friends and BE a great friend. In fact, it's really hard to live like Jesus if you don't have friends who love God too.

That's because friends of God do 3 big things:

1. Friends of God pray for each other.

The Bible says our prayers are powerful and effective. In other words, they work. When we ask for God to help our friends, cool stuff happens. Jesus prayed for His friends and we can too. We also need our friends to pray for us.

2. Friends of God encourage each other.

The Bible says we should encourage each other & build each other up. Friends encourage each other when they're sad or upset. They may also encourage each other when they do something good to celebrate and to remind each other to keep it up. Jesus encouraged His friends all the time and you can too.

3. Friends of God challenge each other.

Jesus didn't just encourage His friends all the time. Sometimes He challenged them if they were doing something wrong or not following God. Friends of God challenge each other when they're not living up to God's best. If you see your friend headed for trouble, say something in a kind and loving way to help them turn back to God.

Put It Into Action:

Who are your faith-filled friends? Choose one to pray for, encourage, or challenge this week.

Remember, the best way to make great friends is to be a great friend. If you don't have many friends who know God, ask God to send you faith-filled friends. Look for people who need friends. Pray for them, encourage them, challenge them and ask them to do the same for you.

Prayer:

God, thank you for giving me friends who help me follow you. Help me to be a good friend to them too. Amen.