

Maturing in Christ: Walking with Godly Friends
Proverbs 2:1-22
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As J.C. Ryle, the 19th-century British pastor wrote, "The Spirit never lies dormant and idle within the soul; He always makes His presence known by the fruit He causes to be borne in heart, character, and life."

I. Spiritual disciplines

1. Living in God's word (John 17:17)
2. Ongoing prayer and solitude (Matthew 6:6)
3. Godly friendships (Prov. 17:17)
4. Involved in disciple making (Mt 28:18-20)

A godly friend is a person who you walk with in Christ-like love, trust, and growth.

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II. Characteristics

1. Relationship based on God's glory and godliness

22:24-25

23:6-8

25:19-20

27:5-6, 17

2. Confidentiality unless it interferes with righteousness or restoration

11:13

Romans 13:6-7 – “For because of this you also pay taxes, for rulers are servants of God, devoting themselves to this very thing. Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.”

Matthew 18:17 – “If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church...”

3. Encouragement and truth

12:25-26

4. Steadfast love

17:17

5. Kindness and forgiveness

19:11, 22

Faith Sheet

Transformation Verse (August) – “Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...”
2 Peter 3:18

Main Themes

- ~ Godly friendships can greatly impact or hinder our spiritual growth.
- ~ The Lord Jesus is a believer’s greatest friend.

#1- Reviewing This Past Sunday Maturing in Christ: Walking with Godly Friends Proverbs 2:1-22

1. Read Proverbs 2:1-22. Discuss Sunday’s message with someone.
2. What did you learn about friendship?
3. What did you learn about yourself in the area of friendship?
4. Do you honestly see the Lord as being your closest friend? Explain your answer.
5. Pray for our friendships to deepen and to be more Christ-like.

2- Preparing for Next Sunday Maturing in Christ: Disciple Making in the Local Church John 2:1-12

1. Read John 2:1-12.
2. Who is Jesus within this text? What is happening?
3. Take a moment and look at the timeline from John 1:19-2:12. How many days are mentioned?
4. Jesus had a busy week. What makes your week busy?
5. Take some time to pray with another person that you might clear your schedule for more time with Him.