

A	Z	A	C	H	A	R	I	A	S	K	I
S	R	U	T	H	T	T	S	E	S	O	M
E	N	E	G	J	J	O	S	E	P	H	Z
N	Q	L	Z	F	O	Z	A	O	B	A	I
A	A	I	R	C	V	S	K	R	W	L	P
T	S	S	I	A	O	J	E	Z	S	I	P
H	A	A	W	E	C	B	A	P	Q	U	O
A	R	B	V	H	E	H	I	C	H	Q	R
D	A	E	T	K	D	C	E	S	O	A	A
A	H	T	A	Y	R	A	M	L	A	B	H
M	X	H	M	A	H	A	R	B	A	A	Q
W	E	P	R	I	S	C	I	L	L	A	C

Words to Find:

Adam & Eve
Abraham & Sarah

Isaac & Rebekah
Jacob & Rachel
Joseph & Asenath
Moses & Zipporah

Boaz & Ruth
Zacharias & Elisabeth
Joseph & Mary
Aquila & Priscilla

Answers to the puzzle can be found at: <http://www.openthoumineeyes.com/Puzzle/Couples2.htm>

Friendly Advice

Bill Brinkworth

- ☺ WAIT on the right friend. Do not settle for the first acquaintance that comes around just because you are lonely.
- ☺ Pick a friend that you look up to, not down to, or the relationship may bring you down.
- ☺ Pray about the friendship. Ask God how you can be a better friend, not just how that person can meet your needs.
- ☺ Be honest with your friend. If they do not like the real you, or the truth, then they are not

- the friend for you.
- ☺ Friendship is not popularity! Acquaintances are not necessarily friends.
- ☺ Stick up for a friend.
- ☺ Never put a friend down in front of others!
- ☺ Be a friend to someone that you feel needs one! They are often the most grateful and the most loyal!
- ☺ Obey your parents' discernment about friends. If they say to stay away from a certain person, obey them!
- ☺ Marry a friend!

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The **Bible View**

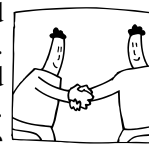



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Friends

Bill Brinkworth

The right friend will build you up. The wrong friend will destroy you. Many will have



their plans and lives changed because they picked the wrong friend or gave a friend the wrong priority in their lives! Many do not even know what a true friend is. Here is a short study on what the Bible says about a true friend:

Friendly all the time! A true friend loves us during the hard times, as well as the good.

Proverbs 17:17-18 "A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. A man void of understanding striketh hands, and becometh surety in the presence of his friend."

Proverbs 27:10 "Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not; neither go into thy brother's house in the day of thy calamity: for better is a neighbour that is near than a brother far off."

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Dear Liberal Friend

Bill Brinkworth

Dear Liberal Friend,

I am so sorry how our friendship has turned out. I was so excited the minute I learned that you were a Christian. Fellowship, and friendship with another of like faith is very important to me. However, I quickly learned that your definition and my definition of being a "Christian" were completely different.

When one says they are a "Christian", I assume their thinking and lifestyle would be aligned with the Bible. Your "Christianity" is not much like what is described in the Bible. Matter of fact, most of the time you did not want to discuss the Bible. When the conversation did lead to spiritual things, you quickly went on the defense and accused me of judging or argued the doctrine.



We have spent more time discussing "what the Bible really means", as you kept saying, than agreeing on the things of God.

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Friends

Continued from Page 1

Friendly first! A true friend is friendly first, rather than waiting for others to approach him.

Proverbs 18: 24 "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

Friendly giving! True friendship is given and not bought. You cannot buy true friendship. Give, and you may get friendship in return. You cannot make someone your friend.

Proverbs 19:6 "Many will intreat the favour of the prince: and every man is a friend to him that giveth gifts." — but not true friends!

Friendly honest advice! A true friend tells us what they believe is best for us, because they care what happens to us.

Proverbs 22:6 "Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful." Also: Pro. 27:9-10

Dear Liberal Friend

Continued from Page 1

My other friendships with Christians have never been this strained. It is has always been easy and perfectly natural for me and my other friends to talk about the things of God, because

"False friends are like vermin that abandon a sinking vessel, or like the swallows that depart at the approach of winter. True friends are like ivy that adheres to the tree in its decay. They are also like the light of phosphorus: brightest in the dark." — Unknown

we are interested in the things of God. You are not.

I may not have been saved as long as you have been, but I do know that the Bible teaches a Christian should live differently than the unsaved. You seem to be very comfortable dressing like the world, talking like the world, acting like the world, doing things the world does, and going to places that the world goes to. It is hard to tell any difference between you and the unsaved. I am not comfortable doing many of those things, and I feel some of them are against what God teaches in His book for us to do.

The world is what we were saved from. The world is losing and not heading for heaven, but to hell. I have no interest in thinking and looking like the losing side. I lived that way before salvation, and I certainly did not have the joy or peace I do now in obeying the Lord. I think it is far safer and Biblical to be more like Christ.

Clearly, the Bible tells us to talk to others about Christ so they also can be saved and have the promise of heaven. Proverbs 11:30 says you are wise if you do this. You have ridiculed and tried all you can to stop me from doing this. No, I do not think it "is pushing it down their throat" by telling them. If someone did

not tell me how to be saved, I would not be. I would feel very selfish if I did not share salvation with others, and would be disobedient to God's Biblical command if I did not.

When I do witness to others, I quite often hear the word "hypocrite." The unsaved world knows how Christians should live. They have seen so many that call themselves Christians, and see that they do not live the way they should. After seeing more living the wrong way, they quickly assume that all Christians are hypocrites and living the wrong lifestyle. I certainly am not perfect, and am still growing spiritually, but the people they are referring to are not people like me, but are people like you.

I love being saved. I owe Jesus much for saving me. My desire now is to live for Him and serve Him. Your liberal theology and lifestyle are doing much to harm and weaken the cause of Christ. It is giving those trying to serve and live for God a bad name and is hurting the testimonies for those of us trying to live right.

Sadly, I think it is time to part as friends. No, I do not think myself "holier than thou". I know what I was, and that I can fall back into my old ways. I am concerned that your disobedience may rub off on me. Association with your unchristian lifestyle will hurt my testimony. My desire is to be more like "Christ",

"A true friend never gets in your way except when you are on the way down."

— Unknown

and I want to have that reputation. So, until your lifestyle becomes more Christ-like, our fellowship will have to stop.

*Regretfully,
Bill*

A Friend

Author Unknown

When troubles comes your soul
to try
You love a friend who just stands
by.
Perhaps there's nothing he can
do,
The thing is strictly up to you.
For there are troubles all your
own,
And paths the soul must tread
alone,
Times when love can't smooth
the road,
Nor friendship lift the heavy
load.
But, just to feel you have a
friend,
Who will stand by until the end,
Whose sympathy through all en-
dures,
Whose warm handclasp is always
yours,
It helps somehow to pull you
through.
Although there's nothing he can
do.
And so with fervent heart we say,
"God bless the friend who just
stands by."