



Christian Friendship

Saint George Summer Club

July 1, 2003

Easy or Hard?

- Is it **easy** or **hard** to make friends?
- Is it **easy** or **hard** to keep friends?
- Is it **easy** or **hard** to break apart a friendship?





What is a friend?


- Dictionary Definitions

- A person whom one knows, likes, and trusts

- A person whom one knows; an acquaintance

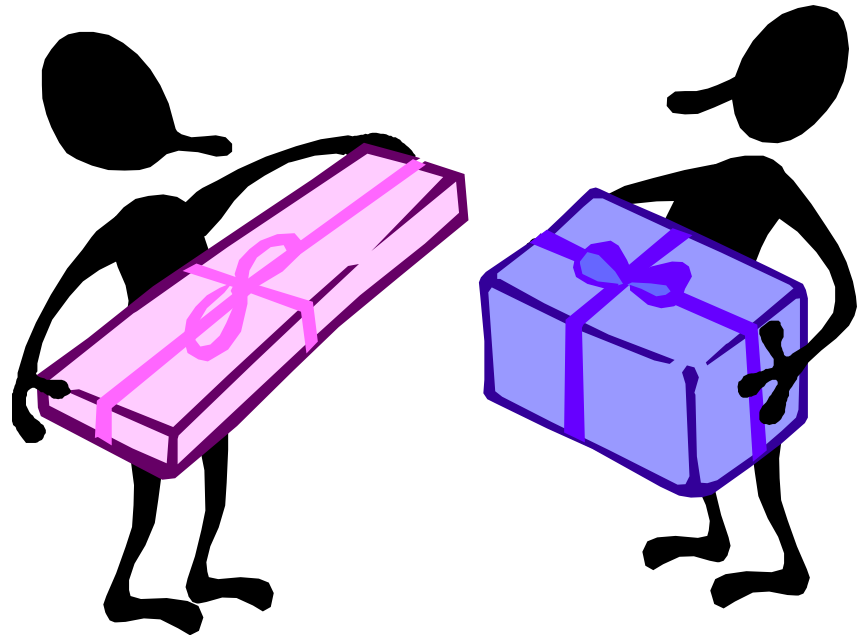
- A person with whom one is allied in a struggle or cause; a comrade.

- One who supports, sympathizes with, or patronizes a group, cause, or movement



Well, that's nice, but...

- How do *YOU* define a friend?
- Think about the difference between...
 - Acquaintance
 - Companion
 - Friend



What do you look for in a Friend?

- Which words did you circle on the handout?
- Are any of these more important to you than others?
- If someone was missing one of those qualities, does that mean that they could NEVER be your friend?



What does the Bible say about Friendship?

- **Proverbs 17:17**

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



What does the Bible say about Friendship?

- **Proverbs 18:24**

“A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”



What does the Bible say about Friendship?

- **Proverbs 27:6**

“ Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful.”



What does the Bible say about Friendship?

- **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**

“Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up. Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; but how can one be warm alone? Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.”



How do you relate to your friends?

- Can a friend ever tell you something that you don't want to hear and still be your friend?
- Can a friend be closer to you than a relative?



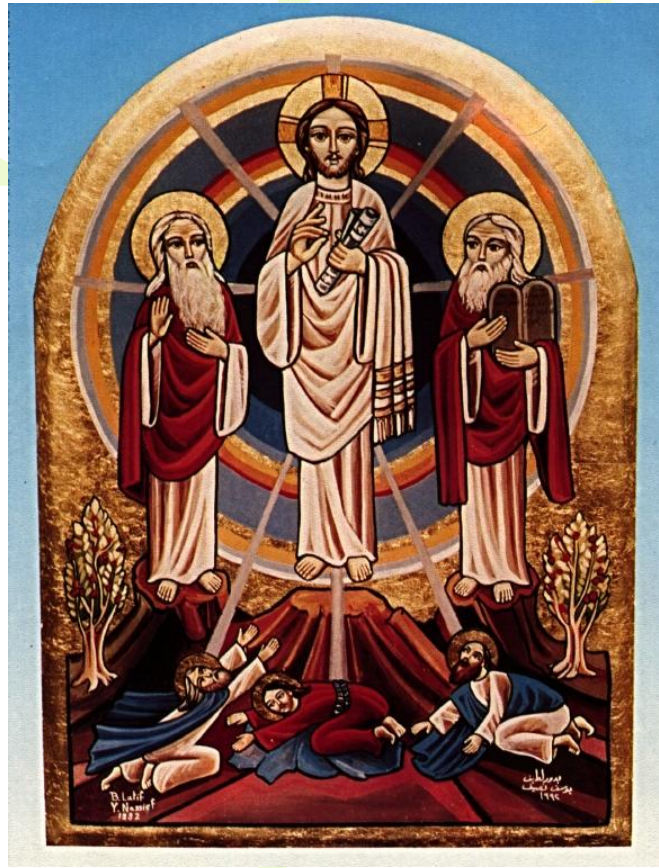
How do you relate to your friends?

- Do you and your friend have to like the same exact things? What happens when you don't?
- Should a Christian only have Christian friends?



Choosing Your Friends

- Look for friends that build you up, rather than tear you down.
- Look for Godly and Holy Relationships.
- Having too many friends is not necessarily a good thing. Look for quality rather than quantity.



**Glory Be to God Forever.
Amen.**



For Next Week...

- Look up and think about the following verses:
 - Deuteronomy 5:16
 - Proverbs 1:8-9
 - Proverbs 6:20-22
 - Ephesians 6:1-3
 - Colossians 3:19-21
 - 1 Timothy 5:3-4