

What are friends for?

¹⁷ When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. ¹⁸

While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me – one who is eating with me.'

¹⁹ They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, 'Surely you don't mean me?'

²⁰ 'It is one of the Twelve,' he replied, 'one who dips bread into the bowl with me.'

²¹ The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.'

²² While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take it; this is my body.'

²³ Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

²⁴ 'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many,' he said to them. ²⁵ 'Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.'

²⁶ When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Friendships teach me about

Failure is v18

All the disciples deserted Him and fled. v50

Failure is v19

Even if I have to die with You, I will never disown You. v31

Failure has v21

Your sorrow led you to repentance. You became sorrowful as God intended, and so were not harmed in any.

Worldly sorrow brings death. But Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret. 2 Cor. 7:9-10

Friendships take me from failure to

Friendship includes v22

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. Jn.15:13

Friendship includes v24

Friendship includes 22-23

Give thanks within all circumstances, because this is God's will for you. 1Th.5:18

Friendship includes v25

We feel sure of better things. Hebrews 6:9

Friendship includes v26

God is able to do exceedingly abundantly far more than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us. Eph.3:20

The ACTS of prayer, plus needs for which to seek for answers.

A. Adoration; C. Confession; T. Thanksgiving; S. Seeking

For personal reflection, or group discussion

1. When you were in school, who was your best friend and what did you do together?
2. Were friendships easier to make when you were younger?
3. What are some steps towards building a friendship?
4. Give an example that explains the difference between relationship and fellowship.
5. How can you balance: a) laying down your life for your friend; and b) maintaining healthy boundaries?
6. We are human, so failing is normal. But how do we minimise the possibilities of failing? Is it possible to help others in similar ways?
7. Explain, in simple terms, the difference between remorse and repentance.
8. Look at your notes for v22-26. Jesus modelled "Friendship includes..." How does each each of them help to build my friendships?

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