

Qualities of a Good Friendship

The Bible is clear about the importance of fellowship. Proverbs 27:9 says, "A sweet friendship refreshes the soul." A healthy bond suggests friends who are emotionally connected and both build each other up. The aspects of a devoted companionability include trustworthiness, being a good listener, and having sympathy. Having a true companion is one of the greatest gifts given to us from God.

To begin with, in scripture the Bible teaches about the significance of being a dependable individual to friends. In Proverbs 11:13 it states, "A talebearer reveals secrets, But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter." Every friend should be honorable, even if it means not criticising or gossiping about a person behind their own back about personal matters. Honorable friends should keep confidences and remain true in their actions and their sayings, and not pretend to be something they are not. Friendship is a commitment. Keeping commitments shows a trait of trustworthiness. A friend that says something that they will do in the future and remains with their promise shows their true dedication. With all said, being truthful is a main element shared in a solid friendly relationship.

Secondly, it is important for friends to be focused listeners. Without the capability of being able to listen, the friendship between the friends will remain empty. A good friend is somebody who listens to the concerns, aspirations, and troubles of an individual and responds with empathy. A comrade should be able to understand the perspective of the other, and be able to give advice for when it is needed. Listening also means to be able to learn more about the person and how they are alike. When a friend listens, one gets to learn about the other's interests and personality. The friends will become closer because they understand and respect each other. Being interested in what other people have to say shows kindness.

Lastly, one of the most practical traits of a friend is having tenderness. It is important to be commiserate for many reasons. Showing compassion is the ability of acknowledging somebody's aching or trouble and wanting to lend a hand. A friend should be supportive as well as helpful with anything someone is going through. True friends show kindness, and stand by each other. A friendship creates a positive atmosphere because when one is feeling down, the other helps make things happier. This is a way of showing empathy. In 1 Peter 3:8, the Bible says, "Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous." Being hopeful, optimistic, and encouraging to a friend who is

discouraged, raises their spirits up when in difficult situations.

To conclude, friends are people who tend to appreciate and acknowledge one another with thoughtfulness. The characteristics of a companionship are being reliable, attentive, and truly caring for each other. Friends are compassionate people who believe and trust. Accepting who somebody is in their ups and downs, and never letting them down whatsoever are the true characteristics of friendship!

Word Count: 517

Sophia Galarreta

6th Grade