

September 24, 2017
Sermon Notes
1 Samuel 20:1-42A

Friendship is the only thing in the world concerning the usefulness of which all mankind are agreed.
Cicero

Principles of true friendship:
1. Selectivity

Proverbs 22:24-25 ESV

24 Make no friendship with a man given to anger, nor go with a wrathful man, 25 lest you learn his ways and entangle yourself in a snare.

Principles of true friendship:
2. Proximity

Proverbs 27:10 ESV

10 Do not forsake your friend and your father's friend, and do not go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity. Better is a neighbor who is near than a brother who is far away.

Go often to the house of thy friend, for weeds choke the unused path.
Emerson

Principles of true friendship:
3. Honesty

Proverbs 27:5-6 ESV

5 Better is open rebuke than hidden love. 6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.

A true friend stabs you in the front.
Oscar Wilde

Principles of true friendship:
4. Sacrifice

Proverbs 17:17 ESV

17 A friend loves at all times, is born for adversity.

John 15:13 ESV

13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Principles of true friendship:
5. Mutuality

We picture lovers face to face but Friends side by side; their eyes look ahead... this is why pathetic people who simply 'want friends' can never make any. The very condition of having friends is that we

should want something else besides friends... Friendship must be about something, even if it were only an enthusiasm for dominoes or white mice. Those who have nothing can share nothing; those who are going nowhere can have no fellow-travellers.

C.S. Lewis

Principles of true friendship:

6. Love

Philippians 2:4 ESV

4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

I have strong reason to suspect that Christians sitting dutifully in church congregations for whom 'going to church' means doing a variety of spiritual activities, have been given resources that if released could powerfully heal broken hearts, overcome the damage done by abusive backgrounds, encourage the depressed to courageously move forward, stimulate the lonely to reach out, revitalize discouraged teens and children with new and holy energy, and introduce hope into the lives of the countless people who feel rejected, alone and useless.

Larry Crabb