



Are You Willing to BE a Friend?

Sometimes the hardest part about building community is taking that first step. Use these tips to help you be a friend to others and open the door to connecting with them over Scripture.

Be willing to GO FIRST.

“The cardinal rule of friendship is you have to be willing to go first.”

Lisa-Jo Baker

Intentionality

You can develop a healthy, robust community that lives right with God and enjoy its results *only* if you do the hard work of getting along with each other, treating each other with dignity and honor. James 3:18 MSG

Vulnerability

Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Romans 12:15

Be willing to GIVE THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT.

Believe the best about your friends.

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a difficult time.
Proverbs 17:17

Be willing to FORGIVE.

Forgiveness isn't optional for the believer.

And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ. Ephesians 4:32

“For if you forgive others their offenses, your heavenly Father will forgive you as well. But if you don't forgive others, your Father will not forgive your offenses.” Matthew 6:14-15

At its core, forgiveness is about taking a step toward someone when you'd rather take a step away.

Be willing TO MAKE SPACE AT THE TABLE.

Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their efforts. For if either falls, his companion can lift him up; but pity the one who falls without another to lift him up. Also, if two lie down together, they can keep warm; but how can one person alone keep warm? And if someone overpowers one person, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not easily broken.
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Is there space in your life for new people?

Are you looking for ways to engage and connect with others?