

7. HOW TO DEVELOP DEEP FRIENDSHIPS

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With such a man do not even **eat**.

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17 I urge you, brothers, to **watch** out for those who cause **divisions** and put **obstacles** in your way that are contrary to the **teaching** you have learned. **Keep** away from them.

Titus 1 13

13 This testimony is true. Therefore, **rebuke** them **sharply**, **so that** they will be **sound** in the faith.

Psalms 133

1 Behold, how good and how **pleasant** it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! 2 It is like the precious oil upon the head,

3 It is like the **dew** of Hermon, descending upon the mountains of Zion; for there the LORD **commanded** the blessing --**life** forevermore. NKJV

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Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough?

PROJECT:

1. Pray and develop deep with a few people.

Cultivate, it doesn't happen by accident.

2. Observe the RLC 15-minute Rule

Romans 15:7 So warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified. TLB

First 15 minutes before and after church, meet with newcomers. Sit with them. Show them love & care.

3. Make RLC one of the friendliest churches in PJ

LOOK OUT for people in **all** the services, including the regular Sunday Miracle Services, Vibrant Youth Service, at the Dream Café or any other places.

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29 Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. 30 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and 'sinners?'" 31 Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

Greet, Meet, Seat, Eat

Sit with them and talk on something of common interest to break the ice. Introduce friends to them and **make sure** the other people will sit down to talk with the new comer.

Meet and talk with them for a few more **weeks**, **until** he has made friends with more people and feel at home with the people and have a sense of belonging.

Get them **involved** with one ministry. Help them grow and feel a sense of belonging. Invite them to VISION HOUR.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

9 Two are better than one, because they have a good return on their work: 10 If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!

A. HOW TO DEVELOP DEEP FRIENDSHIPS

1. I must be and

Proverbs 18:24

24 A man of **many** companions may come to ruin, but there is a **friend** who sticks closer than a brother.

Prov 18 24

Some friendships do not last, but some friends are more **loyal** than brothers. TEV

Proverbs 17:17

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

A real friend walks in when everybody else walks out. Rick Warren

John 13:1

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. NKJV

1 Corinthians 11:23

23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread,

2. I must be

Proverbs 17:9

9 He who **covers** over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.

9 Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them parts the best of friends. TLB

The Bible warns against judging:

We don't have the facts.

When you judge, you have over the job of God.

Rom 14:4

Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And **he will stand**, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

Numbers 12:8

With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles; he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"

We also have our own

God looks at the *and not just the process*

3. I must know how to keep

Proverbs 11:13

13 A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret.

Proverbs 16:28

28 A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends.

1 John 2:1-2

2 And He Himself is the **propitiation** for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. NKJV

Genesis 9:21-25

21 When he drank some of its wine, he became drunk and lay uncovered inside his tent.

22 **Ham**, the father of Canaan, saw his father's nakedness and told his two brothers outside.

23 But **Shem** and **Japheth** took a garment and laid it across their shoulders; then they walked in backwards and covered their father's nakedness. Their faces were turned the other way so that they would not see their father's nakedness.

24 When Noah awoke from his wine and found out what his youngest son had done to him,

25 he said, "Cursed be Canaan! The lowest of slaves will he be to his brothers."

4. I must be

Proverbs 27:5-6

5 Better is open rebuke than hidden love. 6 Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.

Prov 24:26

26 An honest answer is a sign of true friendship. TEV

How to speak the truth in love?

You compliment in but you correct in private.

You never rebuke a friend until you've proven that are open to rebuke from them.

You correct at the timing.

5. I must be

Proverbs 27:17

17 As iron sharpens iron, so one man **sharpens** another.

Emerson: "A true friend is someone who makes us do what we can do."

6. I must be

not reactive

Romans 12:19-21

19 Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. 20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. NIV

We often treat others – they treat us.

We also treat others, the way someone had treated us.

Sometimes we treat others, the way we they are treating us.

2 Tim 1:7 for God did not give us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power and love and self-control. RSV

Prov 16:32 He who is slow to anger is **better** than the **mighty**, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city. NKJV

7. I must take the

Matt. 7:12

Here is a simple, rule-of-thumb guide for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you then grab the **INITIATIVE** and do for them. Message Bible

Initiative to do things

being told

Initiative not to wait for the

situation

Ecclesiastes 11:4

"If you wait until the wind and the weather are just right, you will never plant anything and never harvest anything." (Good News)

"If you wait for perfect conditions, you'll never get anything done!" (LB)

Set the date - do it

Luke 10:34-35

34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him.

35 The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

B. HOW TO CHOOSE FRIENDS?

Proverbs 12:26

26 A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Prov 13:20

20 He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed. NKJV

1 Kings 3:16-27

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