Finding Proverbial Friendship

Proverbs

- 13:20 "Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm."
- 17:17 "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity."
- 18:24 "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."
- 27:5-6 "Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses."
- 27:9 "Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice."
- 27:10 "Do not forsake your friend or a friend of your family, and do not go to your relative's house when disaster strikes you—better a neighbor nearby than a relative far away."
- 27:17 "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

Proverbs = If we want to live wisely, skillfully for our own good and the good of others and our world, then we will want to have a few good friends in the journey.

Friendship has Unique Importance

"But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother"

we face some friendship challenges in American culture:

We're Busy

"200 hrs to develop a good friend" says one research.

We're Moving

"About one in four U.S. adults reported moving within the country in the past five years," Gallup

We're Scared

Friendship is Worth Getting

18:24 "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

C.S. Lewis. "The typical opening of friendship is "What, you too. I thought I was the only one. It is when we are doing things together that friendship springs up...Friends look in the same direction."

Friendship is Mutually Fortifying

Friendship lets one another in

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

Friendship doesn't let one another down

27:5-6 "Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses."

When we have God's perspective on friendship we realize: