

Choosing and Being a Faithful, Not Foolish, Friend **Proverbs: WOW Class Discussion Questions and Bible Verses**

This handout accompanies the WOW Class lesson taught by Jennifer Degler on Facebook Live on 8/2/20 at 9:30 a.m. ET. To view the video afterwards, go to her [Facebook page](#), [Instagram](#) @drjenniferdegler, or the [Jennifer Degler Ministries channel on YouTube](#).

Foolish friends: selfish/self-centered, users, gossip, pull you down.

Faithful friends: loving, consistent, forgiving, confidential, sharpen you, sensitive, honest.

Discussion question #1: How can you nurture friendships or make new friends in the midst of a pandemic?

DQ2: Advice/tips for what to do if you have a foolish friend (someone who considers herself or himself to be your friend but this person is self-centered or uses you or gossips or pulls you down)?

DQ3: How do faithful friends sharpen each other (help each other become better people, leaders, professionals, parents, spouses, Christians, etc.)?

DQ4: What has a friend said to you that was hard to hear but helpful?

Bible verses are from the NIV unless noted otherwise.

Psalm 38:11 “My loved ones and friends stay away, fearing my disease. Even my own family stands at a distance.” NLT

Proverbs 12:26 “The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.”

Prov 13:20 “Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.” NLT

Prov 18:1 “An unfriendly person pursues selfish ends and against all sound judgment starts quarrels.”

Prov 19:4 “Wealth attracts many friends, but a poor man is separated from his friend.” HCSB

Prov 25:19 “Putting confidence in an unreliable person in times of trouble is like chewing with a broken tooth or walking on a lame foot.” NLT

Prov 20:19 “A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid anyone who talks too much.”

Prov 22:24-25 “Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person, do not associate with one easily angered, or you may learn their ways and get yourself ensnared.”

Prov 23:19-21 “Listen, my son, and be wise, and set your heart on the right path: Do not join those who drink too much wine or gorge themselves on meat, for drunkards and gluttons become poor, and drowsiness clothes them in rags.”

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

Prov 27:10 “Never abandon a friend—either yours or your father’s. When disaster strikes, you won’t have to ask your brother for assistance. It’s better to go to a neighbor than to a brother who lives far away.”

Prov 17:9 “Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends.” NLT

Prov 11:13 “A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret.”

Prov 27:17 “As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.” NLT

Prov 27:9 “The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense.” NLT

Prov 25:17 “Don’t visit your neighbors too often, or you will wear out your welcome.” NLT

Prov 27:14 “If you wake your friend in the early morning by shouting ‘Rise and shine!’ It will sound to him more like a curse than a blessing.” MSG

Prov 27:5-6 “An open rebuke is better than hidden love! Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.” NLT

Prov 27:6 “Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.” KJV

Prov 28:23 “In the end, people appreciate honest criticism far more than flattery.” NLT