

Biblical Friendship

By Randall Ricker November 2, 2019
Sabbath Church of God



The more we live by the Bible the
happier we will be.

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from
the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas
Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Be generally in agreement

Psalm 133:1

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in **unity**!

Proverbs 6:16-19

16 These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: 17 A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, 18 A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, 19 A false witness who speaks lies, And **one who sows discord among brethren.**

Be honest

Proverbs 27:14

He who blesses his friend [7453 an associate (more or less close)] with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, It will be counted a curse to him.

Proverbs 24:28-29

28 **Do not be a witness against your neighbor** without cause, For would you deceive with your lips? 29 Do not say, "I will do to him just as he has done to me; I will render to the man according to his work."

Do not retaliate

Proverbs 18:19

A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city, And contentions are like the bars of a castle.

Matthew 18:15-17

15 "Moreover if your brother sins against you, **go and tell him his fault between you and him alone**. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. 16 But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.' 17 And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.

Do not retaliate

Matthew 18:21-22

21 Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I **forgive him**? Up to seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

Proverbs 17:9

He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates the best of friends.

Speak no evil

Proverbs 22:10-12

10 Cast out the scoffer, and contention will leave; Yes, strife and reproach will cease. 11 He who loves purity of heart And has grace on his lips, The king will be his friend [7453]. 12 The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge, But He overthrows the words of the faithless.

James 4:11-12

11 **Do not speak evil of one another**, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. 12 There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?

Speak no evil

Romans 15:14-16

14 Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to **admonish one another**. 15 Nevertheless, brethren, I have written more boldly to you on some points, as reminding you, because of the grace given to me by God, 16 that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, **that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable**, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Do good

1 John 3:16-18

16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to **lay down our lives** for the brethren. 17 **But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need**, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? 18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

1 John 5:16

If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin which does not lead to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not leading to death. There is sin leading to death. I do not say that he should pray about that.

Do good

Luke 14:12-14

12 Then He also said to him who invited Him, "When you give a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends [5384 dear, a friend, fond, friendly, an associate, neighbor], your brothers, your relatives, nor rich neighbors, lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid. 13 But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. 14 And **you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you;** for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

Proverbs 27:10

Do not forsake your own friend [7453] or your father's friend, Nor go to your brother's house **in the day of your calamity;** Better is a neighbor nearby than a brother far away.

Acts of kindness

Proverbs 18:24

A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend [157 to have affection for] who sticks closer than a brother.

Psalm 35:13-14

13 But as for me, when they were sick, My clothing was sackcloth; I humbled myself with fasting; And my prayer would return to my own heart. 14 I paced about as though he were my friend [7453] or brother; I bowed down heavily, as one who mourns for his mother.

Acts of kindness

Luke 15:3-6, 8-9

3 So He spoke this parable to them, saying: 4 "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? 5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends [5384] and neighbors, saying to them, **'Rejoice with me'**, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' ...8 Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and seek diligently until she finds it? 9 And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, **'Rejoice with me'**, for I have found the piece which I lost!'

Romans 12:10

Be **kindly affectionate** to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;

Love as brothers, and more

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love [25 **to love in a social or moral sense... deliberate assent of the will as a matter of principle, duty, and propriety**] to one another and to all, just as we do to you, 13 so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.