



## QUALITIES OF A GOOD FRIEND

In this video, we discuss what it means to be a good friend. We also share four ways you can be both vulnerable and caring to your friends.

### INTRODUCTION (00:00)

It is often easier to see what a good friend should be than it is to be that good friend to others. Sometimes we can desire more out of our friends than what they are capable of physically, financially, emotionally, or mentally.

1. *Think of someone who you would consider a good friend. What qualities or behaviors did they have that made you choose this person?*
2. *What are you most often disappointed by in people you consider close friends?*

### WAY #1: TRUST YOUR FRIENDS (02:22)

To trust our friends requires a level of vulnerability and openness that can often be uncomfortable.

3. *When is it most difficult for you to be vulnerable or assume the best with your friends?*
4. *When was the last time trust was broken in your friendship?*

### WAY #2: BE INCONVENIENCED (03:32)

Being in a mutually beneficial and meaningful relationship with someone requires that we compromise and be imposed upon — willing to move beyond our own expectations, comfort, and familiarity for our friend's benefit.

5. *What has been the most uncomfortable or time-consuming thing you've done for a friend without any compensation?*
6. *When was the last time you had to immediately stop what you*

### WAY #3: LISTEN TO YOUR FRIENDS (04:19)

There will always be a tension in balancing your own needs and desires with the other person's. Listening to both the Holy Spirit's direction and discernment while listening to your friend will give you the ability to resolve this tension for each situation.

7. *When is it most difficult for you to listen, empathize, and have an encouraging response to your friends?*

### WAY #4: BRING YOUR FRIENDS TO JESUS (05:53)

While we cannot be expected to satisfy every need our friends have, we should be able to meet them where they are at — especially in their suffering or hardship.

8. *Has there ever been a time when a friend of yours was unable to meet your immediate need yet you felt loved, cared for, or heard by them? What did they do to make you feel this way?*
9. *What unmet expectation of your friend might you need to release to God and receive His response instead?*

Activation on next page...

## **ACTIVATION (06:54)**

Ask yourself the question, *what is disqualifying me from being a good friend?*

This week...

- 1) Get together with a friend to share needs and pray together
- 2) Meet a specific need for a friend or help them accomplish something