

**Wise Friends
Proverbs 18:24**

Folly: Friendship is about _____.
Wisdom: Friendship is about _____ & _____.

Friendship is _____ God
“I no longer call you servants... Instead, I have called you _____” (John 15:15 NIV).

**Wise Friendship is _____ God
(who is FOR you AND your friend)**

Wise Friends are _____
“A friend loves at all times” (Proverbs 17:17 NIV).

Wise Friends are _____
“Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice” (Proverbs 27:9 NIV).

Wise Friends are _____
“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another” (Proverbs 27:17 NIV).

Wise Friends are _____
“The purposes of a person’s heart are deep waters, but one who has insight draws them out” (Proverbs 20:5 NIV).

Wise Friends are _____
“Wounds from a friend can be trusted” (Proverbs 27:6 NIV).

**The Wise Know Holiness and Whole-i-ness
bring _____.**
Wise Friends _____ For This Goal
“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” (John 15:13 NIV)

Gaining Wisdom for Abundant Living – Week Eight (Wise Friends)

Read Proverbs 18:24 each day along with those scriptures listed below.

Monday – Proverbs 11:12-13, 17:9

Reflection: These verses address three friendship killers. Do you see these in your friendships? What can you do to eliminate them and keep your friendships healthy?

Tuesday – Proverbs 22:24-25

Reflection: It may be difficult to consider, but are there friendships that are “ensnaring” you? Do you need to separate yourself for a time? Or, can you work for your friends’ holiness and wholeness?

Wednesday – Proverbs 25:20

Reflection: False cheeriness and ill-timed

“refrigerator-magnet sayings” can damage rather than deepen friendship. Maybe we should take an often over-looked lesson from Job’s friends (Job 2:11-13).

Thursday – Romans 12:10 Galatians 6:2; Ephesians 5:21

Reflection: You might be depressed after the first three readings this week. Let’s turn to what friendships can do and should look like.

Friday – 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11; Hebrews 3:12-14

Reflection: “Live together with him.” “Share in Christ.” What are some of the markers (according to these verses) when our friendships with each other interacts with our friendship with God?

Saturday – Philippians 2:1-11

Reflection: Friendship with God (“united with Christ”, “fellowship with the Spirit”) leads to having the same mind as Jesus. Would Jesus say you are his friend?

Sunday – Rest in God’s Presence at Home and Folkston UMC

Memory Verse: “One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.” (Proverbs 18:24 NIV)