



2020 Vision: Friends | Jan 22, 2020

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

What if Friendsgiving could be a more regular occurrence? The truth is that it can be when you intentionally set your goals accordingly. Continue below to explore what Jesus says about friends and faith!

Key Verses

John 15:12-13

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Discussion

We tend to think friends and quality friendships just happen, but doing life together in deep and meaningful ways takes some intentionality. Setting goals for how you will seek to foster relationships and build a community of friends is something that helps to set yourself up for the road ahead. Ask yourself the following questions to help grow closer to your friends:

1. Have you ever considered setting goals for engaging your friendships?
2. What are some goals for your friendships over the next year?

A new year provides the opportunity to invest in priority friendships and reflect on how you want to contribute to these relationships. We set goals on a lot of things like working out and dieting, but friends are often left off the list. As you start 2020, think about how you can better connect with your support community.

3. Are there any new relationships you want to be intentional about engaging? How might you do so?
4. What are some hobbies, events, or places where you could meet additional friends and be more intentional about engaging your current friends?

In John 15:12-13, Jesus exclaims, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." If you were to implement this mindset within your own friend group, you will see an increase of trust and respect for one another. You'll notice that the verse slants toward personal responsibility...what we give rather than what we get from our relationships.

5. In what ways can you better listen, support, and love your friends? How can you be a better friend?
6. Are you in a spot where you can be vulnerable, honest, and open with your friends? What are steps that you can take to build trust within your friend group?

What's Next?

Take time to write down your goals in the friend category. Consider new friends, engaging old friends, and giving more to your relationships. This week take one specific action to connect with a friend or plan an event that brings friends together. This life was not designed to be done alone. The more you seek to engage with your friends, the more you will experience God in that community. Of course, if you succeed at anything, succeed at engaging God more often and the rest will follow.

You can find a template of our 5-minute faith journal at faithinfive.com to further engage your goals and connect them with your faith.