



The Relationally Healthy Christian



When it comes to personal conflict, are you a skunk or turtle? Turtles withdraw quietly into their shells until the trouble is past. When skunks are in conflict, they let everybody know about it.

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. *1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)*

TWO KINDS OF FRIENDS

1. _____ friends are the results of _____
2. _____ friends are a result of _____

A mirror reflects a man's face, but what he is really like is shown by the kind of friends he chooses. *Proverbs 27:19 (TLB)*

The righteous choose their friends carefully. *Proverbs 12:26 (NIV)*

FIVE KINDS OF PEOPLE TO AVOID AS CLOSE FRIENDS

1. _____ people

Our friends we command you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to keep away from all believers who are living a lazy life.... *2 Thessalonians 3:6 (TEV)*

2. _____ people

Don't make friends with people who have hot, violent tempers. You might learn their habits and not be able to change *Proverbs 22:24-25 (TEV)*

3. _____ people

I told you not to associate with immoral people. Now I did not mean unbeliever who are immoral or greedy or are thieves, or who worship idols. To avoid them you would have to get out of the world completely. What I meant was that you should not associate with a person who calls himself a believer but is immoral or greedy or worships idols or is a slanderer or a drunkard or a thief. Don't even sit down to eat with such a person.

1 Corinthians 5:9-11 (TEV)

4. _____ people

Do not eat the food of a stingy man...for he is the kind of man who is always thinking about the cost. Eat and drink, 'he says to you, but his heart is not with you. *Proverbs 23:6-7 (NIV)*

5. _____ people

Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. *2 Corinthians 6:14a (NLT)*

CHOOSE CLOSE FRIENDS WHO WILL...

1. _____ me mentally.

He who walks with the wise grows wise *Proverbs 13:20a (NIV)*

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another *Proverbs 27:17 (NIV)*

2. _____ me emotionally

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. *Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)*

Bear one another's burdens. *Galatians 6:2 (NKJV)*

3. _____ me spiritually.

Encourage one another and build each other up. *1 Thessalonian. 5:11 (NIV)*

Spur one another on toward love and good deeds. *Hebrews 10:24 (NIV)*

How can I attract that kind of friend? _____.

HOW TO BUILD HEALTHY FRIENDSHIP

1. Get interested in _____.

Unfriendly people care only about themselves. *Proverbs 18:1 (NLT)*

Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. *Philippians 2:4 (NKJV)*

2. Don't be a _____.

Do everything without complaining and arguing, so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. *Philippians 2:14-15 (NLT)*

3. Be a _____.

Be quick to listen and slow to speak *James 1:19 (CEV)*

Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out. *Proverbs 20:5 (KJV)*

4. Accept people _____.

Accept one another...just as Christ accepted you. *Romans 15:7 (NIV)*

A friend loves at all times. *Proverbs 17:17a (NIV)*

5. Help people _____.

Honor one another above yourselves. *Romans 12:10 (NIV)*

Don't be selfish; don't try to impress other. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. *Philippians 2:3 (NLT)*

6. Be _____.

Rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep. *Romans 12:15 (NKJV)*

7. Stick with them in _____.

There are friends who pretend to be friends, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. *Proverbs 18:24 (TLB)*

Two are better than one because... if one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up? *Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NIV)*

8. Share _____ with them.

Go back home and tell everyone how much God has done for you. "The man then went all over town, telling everything that Jesus had done for him. *Luke 8:39 (CEV)*

Do to others as you would have them do to you. *Luke 6:31 (NIV)*

I do not call you servants any longer. Instead, I call you friends." *John 15:15 (TEV)*