

# Fairview Memorial Winter Bible Study

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## Crossing The Lines Of Friendship

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### I. Introduction

#### a. Our country, people and churches are not what they used to be

- i. Gal 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, **that shall he also reap.**
- ii. Psa 9:17 The wicked shall be turned into hell, *and* all the nations that forget God.
- iii. Mat 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

#### b. Our Purpose is to give God pleasure

- i. Rev 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.
- ii. 2Ti 3:16-17 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: **That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works**
- iii. 2Ti 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth **not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**
- iv. Deu 8:3 that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by **every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live**

#### c. We need some spiritual borders

- i. **God gave natural boundaries:** Act 17:26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;
- ii. Why would he not also give spiritual?

#### d. The difference between the word of God and devil talk

- i. **God is trying to bring us together as his people, with each other and with Himself-** Joh 17:16-21 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, *art* in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

- b. Luk 6:26 Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

## VI. The Fifth Line: Someone Who Helps You Up Not Pulls You Down

- a. Mat 12:30 He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.
- b. Mat 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

## VII. The Sixth Line: Till The Bitter End And Beyond

- a. Ecc 4:9-11 Two *are* better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him *that is* alone when he falleth; for *he hath* not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm *alone*?
- b. Pro 17:17 A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

## VIII. The Seventh Line: Never Argue With an Idiot

### a. From A Distance It can be hard to tell who is who

- b. The Seventh Line: **Bungee Jumping Without the Bungee**-Of course you would not jump, but what if you fall?
  - i. **Tempt not the Lord thy God**- Mat 4:7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.
- c. **Lots Righteous soul was vexed**- 2Pe 2:8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;
  - i. We may not fall into the same sins, but we are spiritually hurt
- d. **Why did God want all the Canaanites Out Of Israel- Deu 7:4** For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly.
- e. Is it a good idea for an alcoholic to sit in a bar? What about a sinner in the company of the wickeders- **Psa 1:1** Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, **nor standeth in the way of sinners**, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful
- f. Mat 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
- g. **Appearance of Evil**- 1Th 5:22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.
- h. Eating Meat offends- Rom 14:15 But if thy brother be grieved with *thy* meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died.
  - i. You might be able to fight off temptation, but what about others?

## IX. I Am Exalted

- a. Joh 15:15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

- ii. **He is not the author of confusion** 1Co 14:33 For God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints
- iii. **The devil however is a trying to tear us a part** 1Co 11:18-19 For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you

## II. The First Line: A Better You

- a. The Biblical purpose of friendship- **A friend is someone who makes you better than you would have been alone**
- b. Gen 2:18 And the LORD God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.
- c. Pro 27:17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.
- d. **Not happier**-better Heb 11:25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;
- e. How do saved and lost people fit into this line?

## III. The Second Line: A Walking Partner

- a. Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?
- b. They were going the same place Luke 10:1 After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.
  - i. Heb 11:13-16 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of *them*, and embraced *them*, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that *country* from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better *country*, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

## IV. The Third Line: Our Hearts Are Sowed Together

- a. 1Sa 18:1 And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.
  - i. Even after Jonathan's death David was still blessing him!
- b. Rom 8:6-8 For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.
- c. Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.
- d. 1Jn 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

## V. The Fourth Line: The Truth Hurts

- a. Pro 27:6 Faithful *are* the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful.

- b. He Has Raised Me Up: Eph 2:6 And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:

**c. I am Mephibosheth**

- i. 2Sa 9:7-9 And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually. And he bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I *am*?
- ii. I am God's friend because Jesus was a friend to me

**X. Notes On Friendliness**

- a. Jesus the friend of the winebibber- Mat 11:19 The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children.
  - i. Jesus did not condone their sin
  - ii. They were not his closest companions
  - iii. He was teaching them about their sin
- b. Do good to all- Gal 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.
- c. Love your enemies- Mat 5:44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

**XI. Conclusion**

- a. A good friend is blessing...a Bad one is a curse
- b. By God's definition a friend is someone who helps us be better than we are
- c. Our best friends should be the people of the church!
- d. The best way to have a good friend is to be a good friend
  - i. Pro 18:24 A man *that hath* friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend *that sticketh* closer than a brother.