



## Community Group Lesson Plan • Abbotsford

### Title of Sermon: You've Got a Friend in Me

Passage: Proverbs 17:9; 27:6; 17:17

#### Intro

1. How does the bible describe friendship?
2. Do you tell your friends how much you care for them? If so, how do you tell them and how often? If not, why not?
3. How would your friends respond if you were honest with them about how much you care about them?

#### Sermon Points

1. A True Friend Conceals (Proverbs 17:9)
  - a. Has a friend ever spoken about you to another? What was the circumstance? How did you feel? What was the response?
  - b. Do you find it difficult not to share your friend's shortcomings with others? Why or why not? Is there ever justification for sharing with third parties the offenses done to you by your friend?
2. A True Friend Wounds (Proverbs 27:6)
  - a. Have you ever had a friend confront you on an error you did? Did they do it well? What does it look like to do it well?
  - b. Why is it so hard for us in our modern society to receive correction? Do we believe that part of our friend's responsibility to us is to correct us? Why or why not?
  - c. Do you find this proverb to be saying something opposite to what our culture is saying? (Doesn't our culture say, "a true friend multiplies kisses and an enemy wounds and can't be trusted?") Why do you agree or disagree?
3. A True Friend Remains (Proverbs 17:17)
  - a. Do you have any stories about friends who have stuck by you in the midst of adversity? What did they do that was remarkable and should be emulated?
  - b. Why do we find it hard to be a true friend who remains during our friends' adversity?
  - c. How does this proverb describe Jesus? (Also read Prov 18:24.) In what ways does Jesus stick closer than any brother? How have you seen him do this for you?

#### Wrap Up and Prayer

From your discussion, what resonated with you individually or as a group? Was there anything not discussed that stuck out to you from the sermon? Pray for each other along with other requests.



**Benediction** - Proverbs 18:24 NIV

*"One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."*