

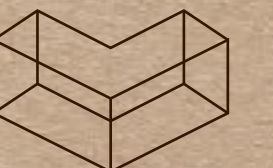
Godly Friendships





Proverbs 15:30 (NLT)

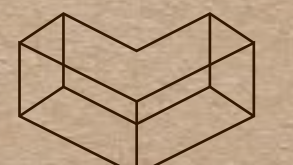
A cheerful look brings joy to the heart.



CORNERSTONE

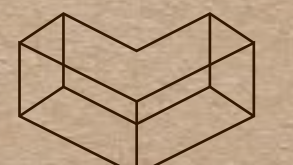
Acts 2:42-47

⁴² Every believer was faithfully devoted to following the teachings of the apostles. Their hearts were mutually linked to one another, sharing communion and coming together regularly for prayer. ⁴³ A deep sense of holy awe swept over everyone, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. ⁴⁴ All the believers were in fellowship as one body, and they shared with one another whatever they had.



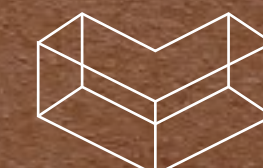
Acts 2:42-47

⁴⁵ Out of generosity they even sold their assets to distribute the proceeds to those who were in need among them. ⁴⁶ Daily they met together in the temple courts and in one another's homes to celebrate communion. They shared meals together with joyful hearts and tender humility. ⁴⁷ They were continually filled with praises to God, enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord kept adding to their number daily those who were coming to life.



“ This is why the experience of authentic community is so life giving. We are taking our place in fellowship with Life Himself. When I am in isolation, I am lonely. When I am in a community, I experience what might be called 'fullness of heart'. The human heart is forever empty if it is closed in upon itself. In community – the divine community – a heart comes alive. ”

— Ortberg



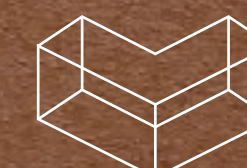


“

Our relationship with each other
is the criterion the world uses to
judge whether our message is
truthful. Christian community
is the final apologetic.

”

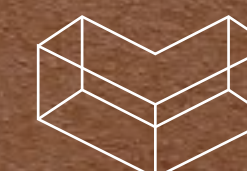
— Francis Schaeffer



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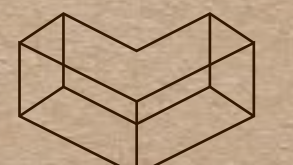
“ You want to go fast, go alone.
You want to go far, go together. ”

— African Proverb



John 11:41-44

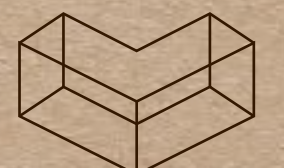
⁴¹ Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. ⁴² And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me.”



John 11:41-44

⁴³ Now when He had said these things,
He cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come
forth!” ⁴⁴ And he who had died came out
bound hand and foot with grave clothes,
and his face was wrapped with a cloth.

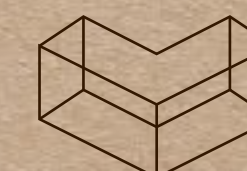
Jesus said to them, “Loose him, and let
him go.”





Romans 16:16

Greet one another with a holy kiss.
All the churches of Christ greet you.

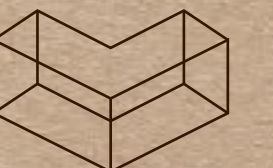


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Genesis 2:18

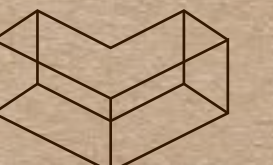
It is not good for the man to be alone...



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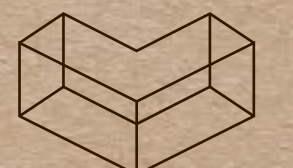
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT)

Two people are better off than one,
for they can help each other succeed.
¹⁰ If one person falls, the other can
reach out and help. But someone
who falls alone is in real trouble.



Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT)

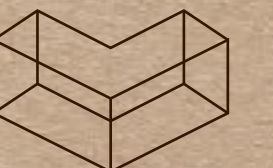
¹¹ Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? ¹² A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.





Proverbs 12:26 (NIV)

The righteous choose their friends carefully,
but the way of the wicked leads them astray.



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THE 'WHAT IT TAKES' IN GODLY FRIENDSHIPS:

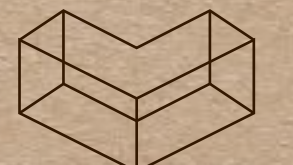
1. Encouragement –

Godly Friendships will speak into and protect who you are becoming.



John 1:42

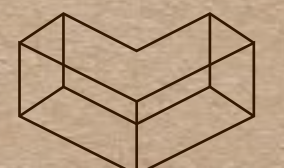
Now when Jesus looked at him, He said,
“You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be
called Cephas” (which is translated, A Stone).





1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NLT)

So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

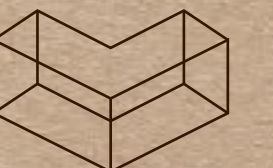


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Proverbs 13:20

He who walks with wise men will be wise,
But the companion of fools will be destroyed.



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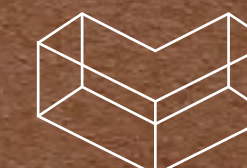
THE 'WHAT IT TAKES' IN GODLY FRIENDSHIPS:

2.

Emotional Support –



Godly Friendships will
address disappointments &
not abort the relationships.



Matthew 26:36-40

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples,

“Sit here while I go and pray over there.”

³⁷ And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. ³⁸ Then He said to them,

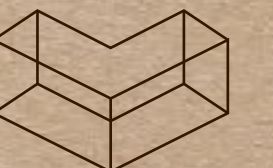
“My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.”



Matthew 26:36-40

³⁹ He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”

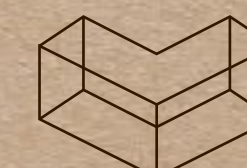
⁴⁰ Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “What! Could you not watch with Me one hour?”





Proverbs 17:17

A friend loves at all times,
And a brother is born for adversity.



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THE 'WHAT IT TAKES' IN GODLY FRIENDSHIPS: 3.

Empathy –



Godly Friendships will listen and empathise with you and not make quick judgements.

**THE SECRET TO
MAKING FRIENDS:**
Be interested, not interesting.

