

## Teen Topic

### A Biblical Worldview (Part 4)

Our next question concerning a biblical worldview is “What is the role of my friends?” Let’s see what Scripture says.

#### What Is the Role of My Friends?

Scripture tells us what a friend should and should not be:

- A friend should:
  - Promote a godly perspective on life (Prov. 13:20)
  - Build up those around them (Prov. 27:17)
  - Be a help and support to others (Ecc. 4:9-12)
- A friend should not:
  - Persuade people to do sinful things (I Cor. 15:33)
  - Draw individuals away from God (James 4:4)
  - Hinder one’s walk with the Lord (II Tim. 4:14-16)

We must recognize the influence people can have, and take caution as to who we consider part of our circle of friends.

#### The Value of a True Friend

A good friend can be a lifeline in today’s culture. Believers, in particular, should have an inseparable unity that serves as a support for one another. In times of discouragement or temptation, a friend can direct us toward hope. As we seek out godly friends, we must also keep in mind that we may be just the friend that someone else needs as well (Prov. 18:24).

#### The Impact of Our Friends within Our Worldview

As we approach life, we must recognize that the views and attitudes of those around us can easily brush off on us. Our lives are often characterized by the things that characterize our friends. Because of this, we must be wise in who we choose to hang around. It also means that we must be prepared to face our world as a leader rather than a follower. In our world, we will find all sorts of people, some of whom we will consider friends. As we look at those friendships, we must be sure we are impacting them, and they are impacting us, in a way that honors and pleases God.

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