



WELCOME

Date: _____

A Guide to life

Choose your friends wisely

Be careful who you surround yourself with.

You are only as good as the people you associate yourself with.

Look at the five friends you spend the most of your time with – that's who you are.

✔ Go ahead and answer

- Is the statement above correct? Explain
- Explain how someone's five closest friends can change them.
- Do you think most people would admit this is the case? Why?
- What are some good traits you have absorbed from your friends?
- What are some bad habits you might be learning from your friends?
- Name someone you should spend more time with
- How can you initiate that this week?

✔ It's a Slow Fade

Most people are far more influenced by their friends than they realise. If your friends make bad choices it's very difficult to hang out with them and make good choices for ourselves.

Conversely, if your friends are always making good choices, it's difficult to make bad choices around them.

Proverbs 22:24-25 gives us a peek at the power of the people we surround ourselves with:



"Don't make friends with anyone who has a bad temper, or you will learn to be like them and endanger your soul". (Proverbs 22:24-25)

These verses say it plainly. Hang out with a bad influence, and you'll learn to be like that person. Worse yet, hanging out with bad influences will endanger your soul. Think about that. Your soul is eternal. That means your friends can have a huge influence on you eternally.

Surround yourself with people who support your faith in God. If you have ever been in a difficult situation, you know how nice it is to have a good friend there who can help you out.

Imagine what it's like to have a friend who will support you in your faith:

- Shady friends invite you somewhere where you know you'll get into trouble. A good friend invites you somewhere where you can have fun without doing something stupid.
- When you are tempted to do something wrong, a good friend encourages you to make the right choice and doesn't make you feel stupid for being tempted.
- If you have an opportunity to stand up for your faith, your friend stands with you, representing Christ with you.

✔ Final thoughts



Be careful who you choose as friends.

Think about your five best friends right now or the group you hang out with.

Do they encourage you in your faith or drag you away?



"Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character". (1 Corinthians 15:33)

Youth department of St Marks Congregational Church | Teen Church 9:30-10:30 | Contact:

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