

I. Why you _____ awesome relationships (_____):

A. For spiritual _____

“When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours.” Romans 1:12

B. For emotional _____

“Share each other’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2

C. For better _____

“Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” James 5:16

D. For social _____

“It is not good for the man (a person) to be alone.” Genesis 2:18a

“The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense.” Prov. 27:9

E. For relational _____

“Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. ¹⁰If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.” Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

II. Three golden _____ of friendship:

“Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.” Matthew 7:12

A. Invest the _____

“There are ‘friends’ who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother.” Proverbs 18:24

“Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.” Philippians 2:4

B. Earn their _____

“Many will say they are loyal friends, but who can find one who is truly reliable?” Proverbs 20:6

Three ways to earn a person’s trust:

1) By being _____

“A friend is always loyal.” Proverbs 17:17

2) By being _____

“If you love someone, you’ll be loyal to them no matter what the cost. You will always believe in them, always expect the best, and always stand your ground in defending them.” 1 Corinthians 13:7 (LB)

3) By keeping _____

“A gossip goes around telling secrets, but those who are trustworthy can keep a confidence.” Proverbs 11:13

C. Accept their _____

“Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends.” Proverbs 17:9