

# WISDOM FOR LIFE

## LESSONS FROM PROVERBS

*How to be wise about friendships*



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***'A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.'***

**Proverbs 17:17**

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- *Eros*                      *romantic / erotic love*
- *Storge*                    *family love*
- *Agape*                    *spiritual love*
- *Philia*                    *friendship love*

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# How To Be Wise About Friendships

- Friendship is necessary for our spiritual health

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***'It is not good for the man to be alone'***

**Genesis 2:18**

***'Two are better than one, because they have  
a good return for their labour.'***

**Ecclesiastes 4:9**

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*'Some may stop their addictive or compulsive behaviours apart from other people, but if their relational patterns do not change, they will relapse if they are not involved in a group.'*

**Henry Cloud**

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# How To Be Wise About Friendships

- Friendship is necessary for our spiritual health
- **Friendship is necessary for our physical health**

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*‘The idea that close relationships somehow help us prevent, cope with, and bounce back from illness has been around for years. But experts now have hard evidence that friendships actually boost our immune system, improve the quality of our life, and help us live longer.’*

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# How To Be Wise About Friendships

## Features of Wise Friendships:

- Wise friendships require CAUTION

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

**Proverbs 12:26**

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# How To Be Wise About Friendships

## Features of Wise Friendships:

- Wise friendships require CAUTION

*What we will become is often determined by who we choose as friends.*

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***‘Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.’***

**Proverbs 13:20**

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***'Friends are the signs on the bus. If you hop on a bus of friendship, you are going in the direction of your friends, who can influence regarding almost everything.'***

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# How To Be Wise About Friendships

## Features of Wise Friendships:

- Wise friendships require CAUTION

*What we will become is often determined by who we choose as friends.*

*Whether we are hurt or helped is often determined by who we choose as friends.*

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***'An honest witness tells the truth, but a false witness tells lies.'***

**Proverbs 12:17**

***'Gossips betray a confidence, but the trustworthy keep a secret.'***

**Proverbs 11:13**

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# How To Be Wise About Friendships

## Features of Wise Friendships:

- Wise friendships require CAUTION
- Wise friendships demand COMMITMENT

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**'A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.'**

**Proverbs 17:7**

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

**Proverbs 18:24**

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# How To Be Wise About Friendships

## Features of Wise Friendships:

- Wise friendships require CAUTION
- Wise friendships demand COMMITMENT
- Wise friendships include CORRECTION

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***'Better is open rebuke than hidden love.  
Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an  
enemy multiplies kisses.'***

**Proverbs 27:5-6**

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***'A rebuke impresses a discerning person more than a hundred lashes a fool.'***

**Proverbs 17:10**

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# How To Be Wise About Friendships

## Features of Wise Friendships:

- Wise friendships require CAUTION
- Wise friendships demand COMMITMENT
- Wise friendships include CORRECTION
- **Wise friendships seek CHRIST'S RESOURCES**

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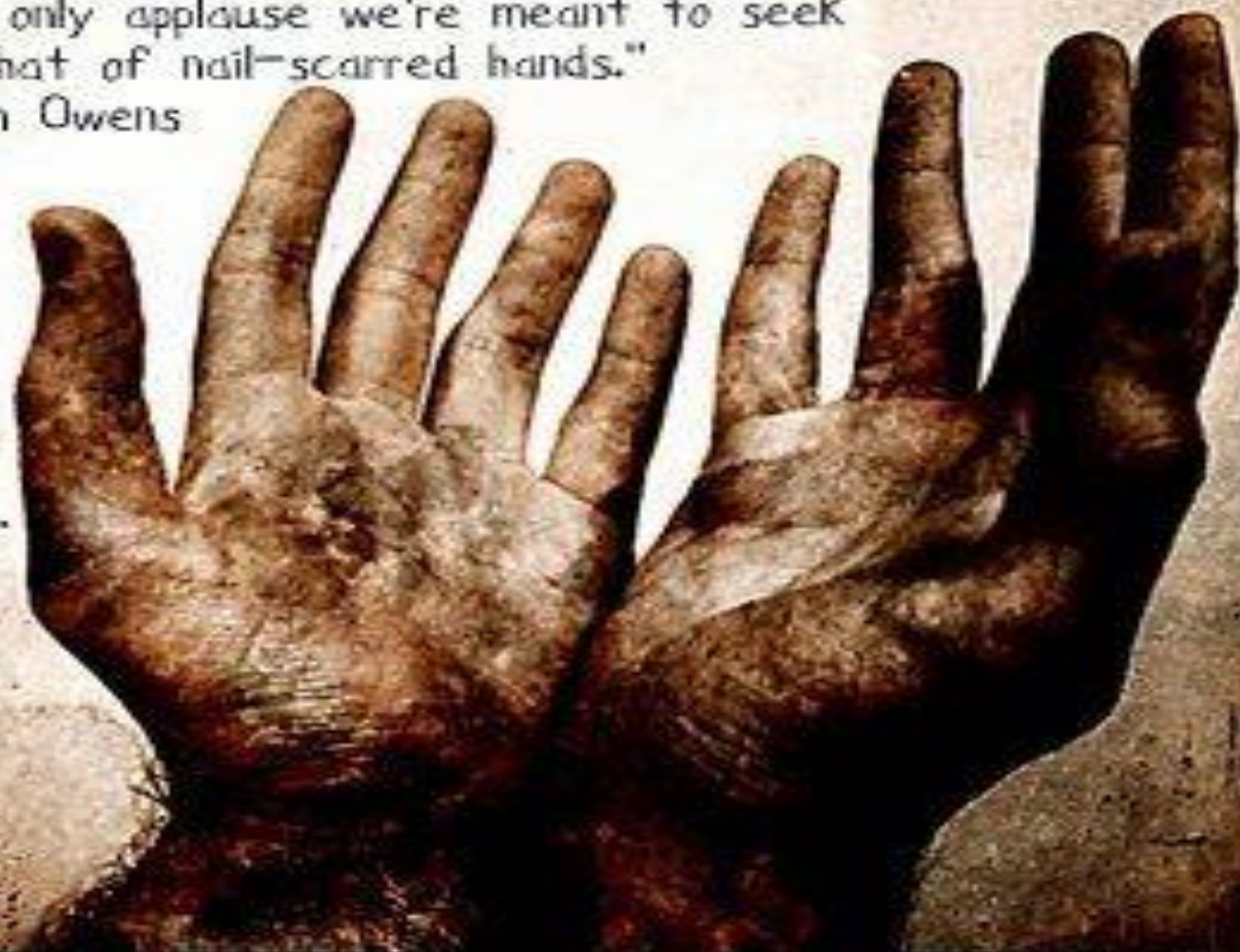
***'My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because servants do not know their master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.'***

**John 15:12-15**

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"It matters not if the world  
has heard, or approves, or understands...  
the only applause we're meant to seek  
is that of nail-scarred hands."  
-Ron Owens



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