

An Army is Arising
What Are Friends For?

In His Mighty Grip Ministries

Review

- 1 Corinthians 15:33 - _____ company corrupts _____ character.
- Proverbs 27:17 - As _____ sharpens _____, so one _____ sharpens another.
- Your friends are VERY important and help make you who you are!

Something In Your Teeth

- How do you stand strong with your friends?
- A true friend is **TOTALLY** honest with you!
- Snack Time!
- What do the Oreos represent?

Do You Have Oreos In Your Teeth?

- Are you walking around with Oreos in your teeth?
- Wouldn't it be nice to have a friend to pull you aside and tell you about it?
- How about help you clean it up?
- Real love is messy! It takes work! It isn't always pretty!

Take 5

- Take 5 minutes to break into groups and write down what you think makes a healthy relationship. What are some of the things you can do for each other?

Some Signs Of A Healthy Relationship

- Honesty
- Accountability
- Mutually beneficial
- Ability to lean on each other
- Ecclesiastes 4:10
- If one falls down, his friend can help him up.
But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!

Challenge Me

- You need a friend who will challenge you in your growth!
- You need a friend who is willing to get outside their comfort zone to grow with you!
- You need someone who you can go to for unconditional prayer!

Who Is It?

- Take a couple and write down the name of a person who you think could be that type of friend for you.
- Write down why.
- Take that home, pray about it and then talk to them this week.
- Set up a system to check in (email, phone, facebook)

You Have A Responsibility! Listen!

- Proverbs 19:20
- ²⁰ Listen to advice and accept instruction,
and in the end you will be wise.
- Not just about being held accountable. The bible also says to seek out **ADVICE** and **WISDOM** of others.
- Who can you go to for this type of help?

Who Is It?

- Take a couple minutes and write down the names of some of these people.
- Contact them this week and tell them. Then simply ask them to pray for you.

Please Take Out The Trash

- “Please take out the trash...” How many times have you heard that from your parents?
- A lot of times you do it but you stomp and pout and do it with an unhappy heart.
- What message does that convey?
- You did what they asked... but did you honor them?

Now If The President Asked

- If the President asked you to take out the trash... how would you react?
- In the same way... you have to honor your parents... God handpicked them for you!
- Deuteronomy 5:16
- ¹⁶ "Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.
- What is the reward for honoring your parents?

Imagine You're God

- VIDEO
- Family is an AWESOME thing. But any time you live that close there is the opportunity for hurt and unforgiveness to grow and fester in your heart.
- What is unforgiveness?
- What happens if that occurs?
- Unforgiveness is like cancer. It spreads.

Unforgiveness

- Wow? Where did that come from?
 - Carrying around past hurts builds deeper and deeper hurt.
- You often take your hurts out on someone else.
- It causes you to avoid relationships.

So What Are We Supposed To Do?

- Matthew 6:14
- ¹⁴For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.
- The opposite is also true!
- Matthew 6:15
- ¹⁵But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

So Let's Forgive!

- Write down all the names of the people in your family.
- Now put a star next to those you need to forgive for something.
- When you go home have a talk with that person. Tell them that God changed your heart and would like to forgive them.
- Now look at the individuals who you need to ask to forgive you.
- Go home and apologize.

Small Groups

- Break into small groups and let's pray for the power to forgive and the courage to ask for forgiveness. Prayer requests.