

We All Need Somebody

Ecclesiastes 4:7-12

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Bob Hightchew

Introduction:

- **Ecclesiastes 4:7-12**
 - *Relationships are a must in our life ... We were created to be in relationships.*
 - *Think about the story of Ebenezer Scrooge*
 - *What are we talking about when it comes to this idea of relationships?*
 - *We all need friends:*
 - *We all need the right kind of friends:*
 - *Real relationships take work:*
 - *What is a Friend?*
 - *Hebrew – **Rea** ... Greek – **Philos** ... English – **Friend** ... All mean the same thing, “A friend is a person with whom one shares affection and commitment”*
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1. A Friend Is Someone Who Will Pick You Up:

- a. Aristotle - A true friend is ... “Is a single soul dwelling in two bodies.”
- b. The tie that binds true friendship has got to be rooted in Jesus.
- c. **1st Samuel 19** – Saul tells Jonathan that he is going to kill David.
- d. **1st Samuel 18** – Talks about Jonathan and David being best friends.
- e. **1st Samuel 18:3-4** – Jonathan makes a covenant with David.
- f. **Romans 12** ... Paul tells us that our love must be sincere ... be devoted to one another in brotherly love ... honor one another above yourself ... rejoice with those who rejoice ... and mourn with those who mourn.
- g. **Proverbs 17:17**

2. A Real Friend Should Warm Your Spirit:

- a. “Sticks and stones may break my bones ... but names will _____.”
- b. **1st Samuel 23:15-18**
- c. *What practical steps can we take to deal with people with a more Christ-like compassion?*
 - i. *Try to see people through the eyes of God.*
 - ii. *Try to feel with God’s Heart.*
 - iii. *Treat people like Jesus treats you.*

3. A Real Friend Will Defend You:

- a. *Don't confuse reputation with character ... They are very different:*
 - i. *Reputation:*
 - ii. *Character:*
- b. ***1st Corinthians 15:33***
- c. ***1st Samuel 20:28-32***

