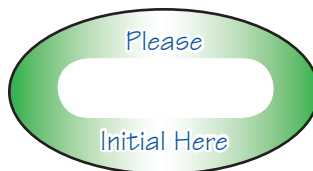


Coloring Page



Good friends know how to share
with each other.

Parent's Initials:



PK1

Relationships in God's Creation

- Lesson Nine -

Friends (2)

How to Make and Keep Friends

I. Overview.

God desires that men would not live selfishly, only caring about themselves. He wants us to love our neighbors as ourselves and treat them in the way we desire others to treat us. These are basic principles for us to live happily in this world with others. To make friends and to keep good friendships we must learn to be friendly and loyal.



God desires that we have
good friends.

To keep friends we also must learn to not listen to gossip or repeat gossip about our friends. This will hurt the feelings of our friends and they will not be pleased with us. We also must learn to willingly share with our friends. If we are a person who is not willing to share, eventually our friends will not want to be with us. We must be willing to go along with others, not always insisting that we have our way. This is to care about others.

II. Memory Verse.

“...there is a true friend that sticks close than a brother.”

(Prov. 18:24)

III. Lesson.

The basic principle that God gives us for dealing with others is “love your neighbor as yourself.” In the same way that we need love and care, others do also. We should not only be concerned about ourselves, but we should care for others as well.



As a friend we should not care only for ourselves.

Making Friends

True friendships are not just “found”, they are “built.” It takes time to establish a friendship, and if you don’t take care of the friendship, it can be lost. In order to make friends we need to be friendly toward others. We we meet someone and we smile, we express warmth and kindness toward others. If we ignore others or frown, others will think that we don’t like them. We should do our best to not be afraid, but to be warm and friendly.

Keeping Friends

In order to keep friends, we must be loyal to them. Everyone has good days and bad days. If we get upset with our friend when they are having a bad day or if they make a mistake, it might hurt our friendship. We should not act unkindly toward our friends but should be full of forgiveness and care. We should never listen to or repeat gossip about our friends. Sometimes others may say bad things about our friends. We should never repeat such things and we should do our best to not even listen to such things. If we repeat gossip about our friends, this is not being loyal to them and we risk damaging our friendship. If we are loyal to our friends they will have a solid trust in us. This makes a good friendship.

Learning to Share with our Friends

One of the most important things that we need to learn to do is to share. To share with our friends indicates that we care about their feelings and their enjoyment. If we do not share, we are really only caring about ourselves and this will not help to build up a friendship.

God is pleased when we have good friends. Many times in the Bible, God used friendships to carry out a part of His purpose. God uses the human relationship and the trust among friends to do part of His work among us. We should all learn the lessons about making and keeping good friends.

--- Questions for Discussion ---

1. How does God want us to treat other people?

2. What are some things that we need to do in order to keep good friendships?

3. Why is it important to share with our friends?

4. What can happen if we repeat gossip?

