

Asking for a Friend Part 2

There's No Such Thing as a Bad Question Here

"My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth." John 17:15-17 NIV

One of our goals as parents is to protect our children long enough for them to grow strong enough to choose holiness for themselves.

Start by paying attention to who's shaping your kids.

Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm. Proverbs 13:20 NIV

You can't control every friendship, but you can influence many of the environments where friendships are formed.

Your priorities become your children's theology.

"The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' ... " Matthew 11:19 NIV

... "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." John 8:11 NIV

You can love someone without agreeing with everything they do.

You can disagree with someone without rejecting them.

... restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. Galatians 6:1 NIV

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders ... ⁶Let your conversation be always full of grace ... Colossians 4:5-6 NIV

... speak the truth in love ... Ephesians 4:15 NLT

"... Your sons and daughters will prophesy ... ¹⁸Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy." Acts 2:17-18 NIV

- **Priscilla and Aquila corrected and taught Apollos (Acts 18:26).**
- **Phoebe served as a deacon (Romans 16:1-2).**
- **Philip's four daughters prophesied (Acts 21:9).**

I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man; she must be quiet. 1 Timothy 2:12 NIV

But every woman who prays or prophesies ... 1 Corinthians 11:5 NIV

... Why does the way of the wicked prosper? Why do all the faithless live at ease? Jeremiah 12:1 NIV

Why, LORD, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble? Psalm 10:1 NIV

"... In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33 NIV

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28 NIV

"[God] will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain ... " Revelation 21:4 NIV

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sept 23: Dinner and Discussion 6:30 PM

Sept 27: Asking for a Friend Part 3 10 AM

TALK IT OVER

Read **John 17:15-17**. What does it look like to live in the world without being conformed by it? In what ways might a devoted Christ follower's daily life look different from what the world would consider normal?

Whether you have children or not, how would other people describe your theology based on your priorities? What's one thing that might need to change?

Share about a time when you experienced God's goodness, despite a hard situation. How does this grow your understanding of His character and nature?

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