

# How Relationships Last A Lifetime

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10  
November 25, 2012



Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NIV)

## Six Traits of a Real Friend:

### 1. I must remain \_\_\_\_\_

A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Proverbs 18:24 (NIV)

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)

I am a friend to all who fear You, to all who follow Your precepts.

Psalms 119:63 (NIV)

### 2. I must be \_\_\_\_\_ to their \_\_\_\_\_

He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.

Proverbs 17:9 (NIV)

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)

If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.

1 John 4:20 (NIV)

### 3. I must be \_\_\_\_\_

A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret.

Proverbs 11:13 (NIV)

A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends.

Proverbs 16:28 (NIV)

### 4. I must be \_\_\_\_\_

Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Wounds from a friend can be trusted.

Proverbs 27:5-6 (NIV)

An honest answer is a sign of true friendship.

Proverbs 24:26 (TEV)

The pleasantness of one's friend springs from his earnest counsel.

Proverbs 27:9 (NIV)

### 5. I must help them become \_\_\_\_\_

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

Proverbs 27:17 (NIV)

A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Proverbs 12:26 (NIV)

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)

### 6. I must always be \_\_\_\_\_

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

John 15:12-13 (NIV)