

(ABC's that threaten Christian living)

Unfriendly And Friendless

By Dr. Gary M. Gulan, ©1986, (Rev. 99)

Timeless Truths (Why should I avoid being unfriendly and friendless?)

1. Believers who are rightly related to Jesus Christ are Christ's friends, it would be logical that they should be friends with other believers who are rightly related to Christ, Jn. 15:14.
2. Friendships are often broken due to the failure of fulfilling obligations (i.e. the conditional "if" on "doing" the right things), Jn. 15:14.
3. The world is unfriendly and even hostile to what a Christian is and does, Jn. 17:14, therefore the Christian must be careful of his or her relationships with unbelievers, 2 Cor. 6:14.
4. Christians who become friends with the world, assume a position of unfriendliness to the cause of Christ, Ja. 4:4.
5. Abraham's life reflected His belief in God, and God called him His friend, James 2:23.
6. Friendships are destroyed by revealing confidentialities, Prov. 16:28; 17:9.
7. Friendless people are often unfriendly people, Prov. 18:24.

Practical Prescriptions (How can I become friendly & have friendships?)

1. Learn to choose relationships with the right people!

"Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God," Ja. 4:4.

"The righteous should choose his friends carefully," Prov. 12:26.

"Make no friendship with an angry man..." Prov. 2:24.

2. Look beyond your own self-centeredness!

"A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother," Prov. 18:24.

3. Labor to fulfill your obligations and commitments to others!

"You are my friends if you do whatever I command you," Jn. 15:14.

"Do not forsake your own friend or your father's friend." Prov. 27:10.

4. Lead a life that keeps both belief and action in balance!

"And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, Abraham believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness. And he was called the friend of God," Ja. 2:23

"This being so, I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and man," Acts 24:16.

5. Love others in spite of their shortcomings and mistakes toward you!

"A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity," Prov. 17:17.