

Friendology

DEPENDENCY * DIVERSITY * DILIGENCE

PART 1: IMAGE IS EVERYTHING

The author of Genesis mentions a problem even before Adam and Eve commit the very first sin. And it's a problem that still gets in the way of developing thriving friendships.

WIN

To better understand the fallout of living in isolation and to be inspired to live interdependently

CONNECT

Other than your parents and your spouse, who are some people you depend on? What do you depend on them for?

LEARN

Before watching the video together and discussing the questions provided, we suggest taking a few moments to pray. Here's a simple prayer you can use:

Heavenly Father, you created us to be in community with other people. Help us to live in a way that keeps us connected to other people. Amen.

After praying, watch the video for Part 1.

APPLY

For married groups during this study, consider having the men and women discuss separately. That is, after watching the video together, have the men or women relocate to a different room for discussion. Here are some questions to guide your time together:

1. What factors do you think have contributed to the increase in feelings of isolation and loneliness?
2. A recent study showed that over the past 50 years, people have increasingly experienced feelings of being isolated, invisible, and insignificant. Is that true about you? Does one of those words ring more true than the others? If so, which one and why?
3. Read **John 15:12–13**. What stands out to you from this passage? Do any of your friends come to mind as you think about these verses? If so, who? And how so?



HOW TO FORGE MEANINGFUL FRIENDSHIPS

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4. What does it mean to you to regard fellow believers as brothers and sisters in Christ? How can considering friends in the faith as “brothers and sisters” help to form deep friendships?
5. Do you see in yourself the temptation to isolate yourself from others? What is one way our group could support each other if we notice one of us withdrawing?

PRAY

Ask God to help everyone in the group be intentional about strengthening the relationships they need in their lives.

