

## Qualities of Christ-honoring Friendship

*from Paul's writings*

### *Romans*

- ✓ Thank God for each other (Rom 1:8)
- ✓ Prayerfully desire to see each other (Rom 1:10; 15:23; 1 Cor 16:7)
- ✓ Mutually encourage each other's faith (Rom 1:12)
- ✓ Enjoy each other's company (Rom 15:24)
- ✓ Are "in the Lord" together (Rom 16:3-16)
- ✓ Show affection towards one another (Rom 16:16)

### *1 & 2 Corinthians*

- ✓ Refresh each other's spirits (1 Cor 16:18)
- ✓ To proclaim Christ, and His grace, to each other
  - working for each other's joy (2 Cor 1:15-24)
- ✓ Speak painful truth to express abundant love (2 Cor 2:1-4)
- ✓ Restless when unsure of friend's well-being (2 Cor 2:12-13)
- ✓ Well known to God and each other's consciences; have reason to be proud of them because of what is in their heart (not outward appearances); of sound mind that is controlled by love (2 Cor 5:11-14)
- ✓ View one another, and others, from Christ's perspective convinced we are stewards of a ministry of reconciliation (2 Cor 5:16-20)
- ✓ Speak frankly with vulnerability [wide-open hearts] (2 Cor 6:11-13)
- ✓ Harmoniously bonded to each other in Christ (2 Cor 6:14-15)
- ✓ Have a place in each other's heart, live or die together, confident in each other, overflowing with joy (2 Cor 7:2-4)
- ✓ Affectionately boast about each other, receive each other's friends as though they had been your own, have complete confidence in each other. (2 Cor 7:13-16)
- ✓ Share in the ministry of the saints, give oneself first to the Lord and then to friends (2 Cor 8:3-5)
- ✓ Reciprocity in financial/material aid (2 Cor 8:12-14)
- ✓ Are avenues of God's surpassing grace to each other,
  - affectionately uphold each other in prayer (2 Cor 9:12-15)

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### *Galatians*

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### *Philippians*

- ✓ Are confident of God's work in your friend's life,
  - Hold them in your heart as you partner in grace together, deeply feel for them with the affection of Christ
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- ✓ Fellowship, affection, mercy, joy, love and unity in the Spirit
  - Not selfish or conceited – consider your friend better than yourself as you look out for their interests (Phil 2:1-4)
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- ✓ Lovingly share the Gospel and your own life with them (1 Thess 2:7-8)
- ✓ Have good memories of each other
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## Qualities of Christ-honoring Friendship

*from Paul's writings*

### *Romans*

- ✓ Thank God for each other (Rom 1:8)
- ✓ Prayerfully desire to see each other (Rom 1:10; 15:23; 1 Cor 16:7)
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- ✓ Enjoy each other's company (Rom 15:24)
- ✓ Are "in the Lord" together (Rom 16:3-16)
- ✓ Show affection towards one another (Rom 16:16)

### *1 & 2 Corinthians*

- ✓ Refresh each other's spirits (1 Cor 16:18)
- ✓ To proclaim Christ, and His grace, to each other
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- ✓ Restless when unsure of friend's well-being (2 Cor 2:12-13)
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*As you read through this document keep in mind 2 or 3 close friends.*

**Write their names down beside the points that you feel reflect your friendship well.**

When you are able, preferably face to face, share with them your thoughts and how you appreciate experiencing those qualities together.

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