

MAKING FRIENDS FOR LIFE

March 14, 2010

II Corinthians 5: 18

“Now we rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God—all because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done in dying for our sins—making us friends of God.” Romans 5:11 (LB)

“God has restored our relationship with Him through Christ, and He has given us this ministry of restoring relationships.” II Corinthians 5:18 (GW)

HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS FOR ETERNITY

1. BE PROACTIVE.

“Do to others as you would have them do to you.” Luke 6:31 (NIV)

2. BE REAL.

“We can say with confidence and a clear conscience that we have been honest and sincere in all our dealings.” II Corinthians 1:12a (NLT)

3. BE INTERESTED.

“Whatever a person is like, I try to find some common ground with him so that he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him.” I Corinthians 9:22 (LB)

“For we must bear the burden of being considerate of the doubts and fears of others...” Romans 15:2 (LB)

4. BE LOVING.

“Live a life filled with love for others, follow the example of Christ.” Ephesians 5:1-2 (NLT)

“Let us stop just saying we love people; let us really love them, and show it by our actions.” I John 3:17 (LB)

“Because we loved you, we were happy to share not only God’s Good News with you, but even our own lives.” I Thessalonians 2:8 (NCV)

5. BE AVAILABLE.

“...Do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.” Matthew 10:19-20 (NIV)

What will be my part?

“So we make it our goal to please Him...For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ...Since, then we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men...For Christ’s love compels us, because we are all convinced that one died for all...” II Corinthians 5: 9-11, 14 (NIV)