



LIVE ABUNDANTLY

10:10  
LIFE

ABUNDANT FRIENDSHIPS

## *Proverbs 8 (ESV)*

*32 “And now, O sons, listen to me: blessed are those who keep my ways. 33 Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. 34 Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. 35 For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the Lord, 36 but he who fails to find me injures himself; all who hate me love death.”*

## The Main Idea

You were wired for relationships.

# Social Isolation and Loneliness



One-fourth of adults 65 and older report social isolation.



One-third of adults 45 or older report being lonely.



# Isolation and Loneliness

- We were created for relationships
  - Trinity
  - Image of God
    - Eternal
    - Relational
- *Seinfeld & Friends*
- Person who used to have friends

# Isolation and Loneliness

- Kills – Satan wants to take us out
- Culture is pulling us into loneliness
  - Phone
  - Streaming
  - ZOOM (?)
- Spiritual crisis
- Christmas – Waffle House

# *Biblical Relationships*



# Biblical Relationships

- Friend – Trusted confidant
- Built over time
- Jesus is our friend



# **BAD** FRIENDS



## Bad Friends

1. Wicked/EVIL (LIVE)
2. Fools – Unteachable, arrogant, prideful, opinionated
3. Quick to anger
  - Sad/Mad/Glad - Dog on bridge
  - Bear trap – Healing takes time
4. Those given to excess – Trading beauty for ashes
5. Perpetually discontent – “One-year itch”

A cartoon illustration of three men with exaggerated features. The man on the left has a long brown beard and a wide-brimmed hat. The man in the middle has a large black afro, blue glasses, and a wide grin. The man on the right has a large yellow afro and a green tank top. They are all looking towards the right. The background consists of purple and blue diagonal stripes.

GOOD FRIENDS

## Good Friends

- Stop trying to fix things
  1. Safe – Can be trusted
  2. Loyal
  3. Generous – Blesses & helps
  4. Healthy borders
  5. Follows Jesus – Not perfect

## Discussion Questions

- Why is it so profound when Jesus calls us “friends?”
- How have you experienced friendship with Jesus through the body of believers?
- What needs to change for you to have close friendships with wise, Godly people?
- Share a time you felt lonely and a time you felt connected in deep friendships with others.
- What made the difference and how did that impact your life?



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