



“Open rebuke is better than secret love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.” Proverbs 27:5 – 6

Do you have such a friend? Such a friend may be hard to find, but once found, how precious they are to your life and soul. This friend wants God’s best for you and is willing, though maybe in trembling and fear, to tell you the truth.”

“Lord, give me such a friend.”

“Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart, so does the sweetness of a man’s friend by hearty counsel.” Proverbs 27:9

A good friend encourages and builds up his brother. Even his presence is a respite from the trouble of life, no wonder his counsel is sweet!

“Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.” Proverbs 27:17

Another translation says, “Iron whets iron; friend shapes friends.” (Knox). You see, the people you “run with” – the people you associate with are forming you and your character! (*Now there’s a thought!*)

Make a quick assessment of your friends – or associates. Are they living Christ honoring lives? Do they love their families or do they consider them to be a nuisance? Do they have direction and carry vision? What you are observing is really yourself in a mirror – you are becoming, on some level, like your friends!

And what of your greatest Friend? Jesus is calling you to Himself. He invites you to experience His presence in His Word, in prayer and among with His people.

Better take another look in that mirror again!

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