



Disc 16 ~ Episode 2 Friendship ~ Foundational



Video Summary

In this 8-minute episode, Chad explains three main points that all friendships have working within them. You can use these three examples to evaluate the friendships and their influence in your life.

- Foundations: Each has a base or support structure which supports the relationship
- Fruit: Each relationship produces fruit, whether good or bad
- Future: You will carry these relationships into eternity, or will you?

Everyone wants to be accepted, by God and by people. Unfortunately that pressure can cause many to make poor choices in areas of their lives. As a result they end up getting hurt and rejected which in turn affects everyone around them. Jesus said that He is a friend that sticks closer than a brother and when he have him on our side, He will always show us what it means to be a true friend.



Icebreaker

Important Business

A college student, a minister, and a businessman all were on a small plane. At one point, the aircraft had technical difficulties. The pilot, in a fit of terror, abandoned the cockpit and came to where the passengers were seated.

"The plane is about to crash," the pilot screamed. "We only have three parachutes." With that, the pilot strapped on one of the parachutes, and jumped out of the aircraft.

The businessman stood up very ceremoniously. "I," he said, "am a very important man with a huge commercial empire. I need to live for the good of my company. I need to take a parachute." He then jumped out of the plane.

The minister spoke next. "Son, he said, "you can have the last parachute. I've lived longer than you have, and, as a Christian, I know I'm headed for heaven. Have a blessed life, and remember to follow Jesus."

The college student replied, "Sir, I am quite touched by your offer. However, your sacrifice is unnecessary. The businessman just jumped out strapped to my backpack."



Primary Lesson

Building Foundational Friendships

Friendship is normal to life. We were not meant to live alone and God has given us the ability and desire to build a life with other people. These friendships can either add to our foundation (Jesus) and strengthen it or they will slowly chip away at it, undermining the work He has been doing. When the storms of life begin to rise around the foundation of any relationship, the true strength of that relationship will be tested.

There is only one way to determine if a friendship you have is based on Jesus or on something else. Jesus said that we can know a tree by its fruit. If you see an apple tree it will produce apples, not oranges. What type of fruit are the friendships in your life producing? If the fruit is bad, the tree is bad, and the more you eat of that fruit, the more you will find yourself compromising and allowing your conscience to become hardened.

God wants us to invest our lives in areas that are going to have an eternal payoff. As with marriage and family, God knows that friendships are meant to be enjoyed forever. Jesus paid a huge price for us, His friends, and wants to share His life with us. Do you have friends that are unaware of your relationship with Jesus? Do you think that they would like to know this man Jesus? What are you doing to communicate your faith in him to the people you call your friends?



Facts, Figures & Illustrations

- Almonds - are members of the Peach family!
- Oranges - Some trees bear oranges for more than 100 years!
- Mangos - In the wild, mangos, and some other fruit, rely on Bats for pollination!
- Pineapple - One-third of the World's pineapples comes from Hawaii.
- Watermelon - Watermelon is technically a berry, of which there are more than 50 varieties!
- Certain beaches and sand dunes create mysterious sounds that scientists still don't completely understand. They sing, whistle, boom, bark, and even sound like a frog!
- The average beach pail contains 3,500,000,000 grains of sand!
- It takes an average of three years to classify someone as a "best friend".

Source: <http://www.fukkad.com/trivia/fruity.shtml>



Key Scriptures

(From NKJV, unless otherwise noted)

Proverbs 18:24 ~ *But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.*

Galatians 5:22-23 ~ *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.*

Luke 6:44 ~ For every tree is known by its fruit.

Matt 21:19 ~ *And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, "Let no fruit grow on you ever again." Immediately the fig tree withered away.*

Matthew 7:24-27 ~ *Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.*



Complimentary Story

Dog Saves Owner

A US dog has won an award for saving her owner's life by dialing a phone number that alerted emergency services to her owner's diabetic seizure. The dog was trained to detect potential diabetic attacks by licking and sniffing Mr. Weaver's nose to check his blood sugar levels and pawing him. Belle the beagle triggered a call to an ambulance crew by biting on her owner, Kevin Weaver's, mobile phone. Belle resorted to dialing for help when Mr. Weaver fell unconscious.

The dog used her teeth to press the number nine key, which the phone was programmed to interpret as a "911" call to emergency services.

Ambulance workers answered the phone and, hearing nothing but barking at the end of the line, rushed to the caller's house in the city of Ocoee in Florida State. The dog is the first animal to receive the Vita Wireless Samaritan Award.

"I am convinced that if Belle wasn't with me that morning, I wouldn't be alive today," Mr. Weaver said. "Belle is more than just a life-saver. She's my best friend."

Source: June 20, 2006 BBC News



Discussion Questions

1. Discuss Matthew 7:24 and apply the principle to your lives and relationships. What was main point Jesus was trying to illustrate?
2. Discuss the types of fruit that are being produced in your relationships. Use Galatians 5:16-26 as your guideline. This will give you a good indication of the active root structure.
3. Discuss the expressions "Hurt people hurt people". Are there people in your life who hurt you or others on a regular basis? Are you one of the "Hurt" people and are you unknowingly hurting those closest to you?
4. Discuss why it is so hard to talk to family and friends about Jesus and what he has done for you? (Hint: See Mark 6:4-6)

