

FRIENDSHIPS/RELATIONSHIPS

10TH GRADE

OBJECTIVE

Help your student understand how their closest relationships influence their faith, identity, and choices—and why choosing godly friends matters.

WHAT TO KNOW

Your student's friendships are shaping their character more than you might realize. At this age, peers often carry more influence than parents, especially when it comes to decision-making and values. That's not a sign of rebellion—it's a normal part of development. But because friendships are so powerful, they must also be intentional. The Bible reminds us that friendships are never neutral: they either push us closer to God or pull us away from Him. Healthy, Christ-centered friendships challenge students to grow, hold onto truth, and become the people God has called them to be. That's why student small groups matter—they provide a safe space to form relationships that lead to spiritual growth, not compromise.

TRUTH FROM THE BIBLE

Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm. Proverbs 13:20
Who we spend time with shapes who we become—for better or worse.

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17
Godly friendships help us grow through encouragement, challenge, and accountability.

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." 1 Corinthians 15:33
Even strong character can be worn down by the wrong influences.

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity. Proverbs 17:17
The best friendships are loyal, loving, and dependable—even in difficult seasons.



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TALK ABOUT IT

- Who are the people influencing you most right now?
- What do you think makes a friendship healthy or unhealthy?
- How do your friends impact the way you think, talk, or act?
- Have you ever had to walk away from a friendship that wasn't good for you?
- What kind of friend do you want to be to others?

LIVE IT OUT

Encourage your student to reflect on who they're becoming based on the people they spend the most time with. Help them think about whether their closest friendships push them toward Jesus or pull them away. If they're in a small group, ask how that experience is shaping their faith. If they're not, talk about what's holding them back and how they might find a Christ-centered community. Challenge them to be the kind of friend they're looking for—someone who's loyal, encouraging, and rooted in truth. Share stories from your own life about friendships that changed you—both positively and negatively—and what you learned from them. Most of all, remind them that who they walk with now will shape where they end up later.

PRAY TOGETHER

Pray with your student this week, asking God to bring wise, godly friendships into their life.

"God, thank You for the gift of friendship. Help us walk with people who lead us closer to You and give us courage to set boundaries where needed. Make us into friends who love well, speak truth, and sharpen one another in our faith. Amen."

