

# FRIENDSHIPS/RELATIONSHIPS

## 6TH GRADE

### OBJECTIVE

Help your student understand how friendships shape who they are and how to pursue relationships that reflect God's wisdom, love, and purpose.

### WHAT TO KNOW

One of the most important parts of middle school is learning how to build and navigate friendships. Students at this age are figuring out how to relate to others, how to choose good friends, and how to be a good friend in return. The people they spend time with will shape how they think, act, and even see themselves.

God cares deeply about relationships. The Bible is filled with wisdom on how to treat others and what kinds of friends help us grow. As students take their first steps into deeper peer connections, this is the perfect time to talk about what makes a healthy, Christ-centered friendship—and why it matters.

### TRUTH FROM THE BIBLE

*Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.* Proverbs 13:20 NIV  
Your friends influence your choices and your future.

*Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character.* 1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV  
Unwise friendships can lead you away from God's best.

*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.* John 15:12–13 NIV  
Jesus shows us how to love our friends selflessly.

*Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience... And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.* Colossians 3:12–14 NIV  
Our relationships should reflect the character of Christ.

*Two are better than one... If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.*  
Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 NIV  
Friends are a gift—God designed us to help one another.



# FRIENDSHIPS/RELATIONSHIPS

6TH GRADE

## TALK ABOUT IT

- What kind of friend do you want to be? Why do you think that matters to God?
- Can you think of a time when a friend helped you grow—or hurt you?
- How can you tell if someone is a wise or foolish friend?
- Do you think it's okay to set boundaries in friendships? Why or why not?
- Share a personal story—either when you chose friendships that led you toward God or a time you had to walk away from unhealthy relationships.

Help your student see that it's not just about having friends—it's about having the right kind of friends, and being the kind of friend that reflects God's love and wisdom.

## LIVE IT OUT

Help your student take a closer look at their current friendships by asking questions like: Does this relationship help you follow Jesus or distract you from Him? Are you becoming more like Christ because of the people you're spending time with? Encourage them to write down a few qualities they value in a friend—and in themselves. Talk about when it's healthy to set boundaries or speak truth in love, and what it looks like to be the kind of friend who uplifts, encourages, and reflects Christ in every relationship.

## PRAY TOGETHER

Take a moment to pray with your student. Invite God into their friendships and ask Him to give them wisdom in choosing and being a good friend.

"God, thank You for the people You've put in my life. Help me be a kind, honest, and loving friend. Show me how to choose friends who help me follow You, and give me the courage to walk away from friendships that don't honor You. Teach me to forgive, to be patient, and to love others the way Jesus loves me. Amen."

