



TALK IT OVER

The Company You Keep

BOTTOM LINE

Who you do life with really matters.

CONVERSATION STARTER

Who was one of your most influential friendships in your teens?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily: newpointe.org/thedaily
- [Making Relationships Work](#), by Louie Giglio (19 min.)

KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.
Proverbs 13:20 NIV

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."
1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:23-25 NIV

"The direction of your life is tied to your relationships. Your relationships are not neutral; they are formative."

"You don't have to be a fool to get hurt, you just have to be close to one when they blow up their life. Choose your relationships carefully. Show me your friends and I will show you your future. Both wisdom and foolishness are contagious."

"Isolation is the enemy of transformation. Life change happens in the context of relationships—the kind where you are known, encouraged, challenged, and missed when you are not there." — Quotes by Dwight Mason

TALK IT OVER

We agree that relationships are formative, but may disagree on what is an unwise relationship. Solomon talks about "bad company." What defines "bad company" to you? How have you witnessed or been caught by the corruption of bad or unwise company? How have people in your life lifted you toward wisdom or pulled you toward danger? How are your current relationships impacting and shaping your life? How do you choose the people you "let in" to the close places of your life? Most people don't walk away from faith because of a theological crisis. They walk away quietly, after they drift out of relationships. Discuss. Jesus didn't invite His followers into a belief system; He invited them into a community, a movement. The first-century church was built on people "doing life together." How can "doing life together" be possible in our current culture and lifestyle? What is my responsibility for myself? For others? Community keeps you anchored in hope. Testify. Community requires commitment. How are you currently living that out? Community is needed in the growing darkness of the world around us. How is community helping you with the pressures of life?

ACTION STEP

I cannot survive and thrive without strong community. I will work with God and others this fall for strong community by _____