

Title: How Many Of Us Have Them?

Text: Genesis 2:18 ESV

Target: We are wired for connection not isolation.

Barriers to Biblical Friendship:

Our longing for independence

Our loyalty to family.

Our loop of the past.

Biblical friendship requires:

1. Cost
 - a. *“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.” -John 15:13 ESV*
2. Consistency
 - a. *A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. -Proverbs 17:17 ESV*
 - b. *“A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.” -Proverbs 18:24 ESV*
3. Confrontation
 - a. *An open rebuke is better than hidden love! Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy. -Proverbs 27:5-6 NLT*
 - b. *Whoever rebukes a person will in the end gain favor rather than one who has a flattering tongue. -Proverbs 28:23 NIV*
4. Confidants
 - a. *Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets, but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered. -Proverbs 11:13 ESV*
 - b. *Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends. -Proverbs 17:9 ESV*
5. Covenant
 - a. *And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. -1 Samuel 18:3 NIV*

Take Away: Determine which seat your friends sit in and reassign if you need to.