Your Best Friends

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Observe Best Friends Day on June 8 by reflecting on what you value most about your friends.

For Teen Family

Season Summer

Needed

Bible, bookmarks or slips of paper, Qualities of Best Friends worksheet (see last page), pens or pencils

Prepare in Advance

Place bookmarks in your Bible at Proverbs 17:17, Proverbs 18:24, and John 15:13. Make a copy of Qualities of Best Friends worksheet (see last page), for each family member.

Activity Plan

1. Pray aloud to begin:

Dear God, thank you for the friends we have. Help us to value each person and to grow in appreciation of how friends enrich our lives. Amen.

2. From your Bible or the text below, ask someone to read aloud Proverbs 17:17. Have another family member read aloud Proverbs 18:24 and another read aloud John 15:13. After hearing the verses, discuss what they seem to be saying about the importance of friends.

Proverbs 17:17: "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

Proverbs 18:24: "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

John 15:13: "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

- 3. Point out that June 8 is Best Friends Day, a day to celebrate having good friends. Give each family member a copy of Qualities of Best Friends worksheet and a pen or pencil. Invite each person to identify one "best" friend and then follow the directions on the worksheet.
- 4. After everyone has finished, have a family discussion about what was marked on the worksheets:
 - Who is your best friend(s)? Why? (Don't be surprised if teenagers can't imagine that parents have best friends—or any friends at all.)
 - Which qualities did you circle on the worksheet? Which three qualities did you mark with a star?
 - If your friend completed this worksheet about you, what would he or she say are your three top qualities as a friend?
 - In what ways do friends enrich our lives?
- 5. End with prayer. Thank God for the friends of each family member.

Qualities of Best Friends

Think of a person who is your good friend or best friend. Circle all the qualities this friend has. Put a \swarrow^{\wedge} next to the three qualities you value most.

| Honest | Friendly | Likable | Kind |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Responsible | Generous | Delightful | Supportive |
| Loyal | Reliable | Gentle | Funny |
| Tolerant | Trustworthy | Fun | Caring |
| Forgiving | Observant | Wise | Calm |
| Admirable | Talented | Principled | Clever |
| Positive | Dependable | Encouraging | Humble |
| Respectful | Cooperative | Creative | Noble |
| Pleasant | Discerning | Courageous | Sensible |