

KEYS TO EVALUATING FRIENDSHIP

Appraisal

*Culled from 'Hill'm a Schoolgirl' by
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Friends are very important to your becoming great in life. Your friends wield a great influence on you, for this reason, a wise person would always cross-check the impact his or her friends is making on him. Constant re-evaluation of your friendship is imperative.

Here are five keys that you could use to evaluate the quality of your friendship.

IDENTIFY YOUR PURPOSE IN THE RELATIONSHIP

You can make friends with someone so that you can encourage each other with your studies, others could be your friends for the purpose of relaxation. But more importantly, your friends are your counsellors; they wield a great influence on you when you have crucial decisions to make.

ARE YOU IMPROVING EACH OTHER?

Reconsider the status of your friendship. If it is

not adding value to your character development; if all you do is gossip about other people and wastes your time on things that don't add value to your lives, then it is not a worthwhile friendship. If you are unable to influence your friends to improve on what you do in the relationship, then, you must take a decisive step and reduce your level of intimacy with them.

IS IT HAVING A NEGATIVE INFLUENCE ON YOU?

Also if you observe that your grades in school began to drop since you became friends with someone, you must ask yourself whether the drop in your grades is due to your friendship with that person or if it is just a coincidence. For example, try to observe whether spending time with your friend encourages you only to play rather than spend time on your duties. If that is the case, then you should break the friendship since it is negatively affecting your goals in life. Break-up means avoid spending time with her again so that you can concentrate on your studies and duties.



DO YOU HAVE SIMILAR VALUES?

When you have a friend who laughs and ridicules you when you say or do things that show your respect for God or if your friend is the type that thinks you can always get away with any bad or wicked thing you do as long as you are not caught, you have to break your friendship with such a person.

ARE YOU AFRAID TO DISAGREE WITH YOUR FRIEND(S)?

You should cut off from friends who encourage you to do things that make you feel uncomfortable with your conscience. Friends with whom you are not bold to disagree with when they are taking a wrong step, but rather, you reluctantly follow to do wrong things even when you don't like it, break up quickly!



CONCLUSION

As mentioned earlier, your friends would usually be your first counsellors when you have decisions to make. Take your friends' advice when it makes sense and when it does not conflict with what the Bible says.



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