



**WEEK 1:** Friend Request – Ruth, Naomi & Loyalty

**Date:** Nov. 8, 2020

**Bible Passages:** Ruth 1:16-17; 2:11-12; 4:13-15

**Bottom Line:** True friendship means walking together even when the path is dark, dangerous and uncertain.

**Video:** [www.youtube.com/compassstudentsonline](http://www.youtube.com/compassstudentsonline)

**Preparation:** Mom and/or dad, take time to prepare well for this spiritual experience with your son or daughter and perhaps their friends. Proper preparation includes reading through this guide, setting up a comfortable environment, preparing the videos, materials (*everyone will need a Bible, pen and notebook/journal*) and snacks, and prayer. It also includes giving your participants time to prepare as well. Let them know in advance what you want to do and then remind them a few minutes before your start time so that they are ready too.

**Interactive game / activity** – “The friendship Game”

Read the name of a famous or historical person and have your student(s) guess the friend or partner that goes best with this person.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ○ <a href="#">Batman</a> and <a href="#">Robin</a>                | ● <a href="#">Lightning McQueen</a> and <a href="#">Mater</a>       |
| ○ <a href="#">Phineas</a> and <a href="#">Ferb</a>                | ● <a href="#">The Lone Ranger</a> and <a href="#">Tonto</a>         |
| ○ <a href="#">Mario</a> and <a href="#">Luigi</a>                 | ● <a href="#">Scooby Doo</a> and <a href="#">Shaggy</a>             |
| ○ <a href="#">Tom</a> and <a href="#">Jerry</a>                   | ● <a href="#">Woody</a> and <a href="#">Buzz Lightyear</a>          |
| ○ <a href="#">R2D2</a> and <a href="#">C3PO</a>                   | ● <a href="#">Han Solo</a> and <a href="#">Chewbacca</a>            |
| ○ <a href="#">Sponge Bob</a> and <a href="#">Patrick Starr</a>    | ● <a href="#">Snoopy</a> and <a href="#">Woodstock</a>              |
| ○ <a href="#">Sherlock Holmes</a> and <a href="#">Watson</a>      | ● <a href="#">Fred Flintstone</a> and <a href="#">Barney Rubble</a> |
| ○ <a href="#">Bert</a> and <a href="#">Ernie</a>                  | ● <a href="#">Calvin</a> and <a href="#">Hobbes</a>                 |
| ○ <a href="#">Yogi</a> and <a href="#">Boo Boo</a>                | ● <a href="#">Marlin</a> and <a href="#">Dory</a>                   |
| ○ <a href="#">Abbott</a> and <a href="#">Costello</a>             | ● <a href="#">Laurel</a> and <a href="#">Hardy</a>                  |
| ○ <a href="#">Tom Sawyer</a> and <a href="#">Huckleberry Finn</a> | ● <a href="#">Shrek</a> and <a href="#">Donkey</a>                  |
| ○ <a href="#">Winnie the Pooh</a> and <a href="#">Piglet</a>      | ● <a href="#">Gilligan</a> and <a href="#">Skipper</a>              |

**Activity Debrief:** This would be a great time to pull out the snacks.

- Which of these iconic friendships do you think is the greatest of all time? Why?

**Video Teaching:** [Friend Request: week 1 – Ruth, Naomi, and Loyalty](#)

**Set-up:** “Today we start a new series titled “Friend Request.” We’re going to spend the next three weeks discussing uncommon attributes of great friends by looking at some remarkable friendships from the Bible. Before we start the video let me ask you,

“What makes someone a great friend?”

Once you have discussed the question a little bit, press play on the teaching video.

View teaching video [HERE](#)

Discussion Starter:

- If you could be best friends with any one celebrity, who would you choose and why?

Discussion Starters:

- Who can summarize the story of Ruth and Naomi from today's lesson?
- What did you learn about "loyalty" through today's lesson?
- What do you think made Ruth and Naomi such good friends? (*They shared a common tragedy*)
- Why do you think shared hardship or trials tend to strengthen friendships? (*think about loyalty*)
- What is the hardest thing you've walked through with a friend? What happened?

Scripture:

Proverbs is a book of wisdom attributed to King Solomon, son of King David and Israel's third king. Much of Proverbs speaks to friendship and what it means to be a good friend. Look up and read the following verses together, then answer these three questions for each verse:

1. What does this verse mean?
2. Where or when have you found this bit of wisdom to be true in your life?
3. How can you work on living this bit of wisdom out in your life today?

**Proverbs 11:30** – "The seeds of good deeds become a tree of life; a wise person wins friends."

**Proverbs 12:26** – "The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray."

**Proverbs 18:24** – "One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

**Proverbs 22:24-25** – "Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person, do not associate with one easily angered, or you may learn their ways and get yourself ensnared."

**Proverbs 27:10** – "Do not forsake your friend or a friend of your family, and do not go to your relative's house when disaster strikes you— better a neighbor nearby than a relative far away."

**Proverbs 27:17** - As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.

Digging Deeper:

- What advice would you give someone who was working on being a better friend? What kind of wisdom would you give that friend? What would your "friendship Proverb" be?
- Why do you think it is so important to make God the center of our friendships?

Application:

- Which of the Proverbs that we studied today do you need to work on in your life?  
How will you work on applying this truth today?
- Close your time together asking God to help you be better friends and to demonstrate loyalty.

1:15 **Closing activity & prayer:** choose 1 of the following options for the whole group together.

- Singing: Together sing “[What a Friend](https://youtu.be/n6qXfZPtzsM),” by Mat Maher (<https://youtu.be/n6qXfZPtzsM>)
- Journal Response: Pull out your notebook or journal and create a list of friends that God has given you. Once you’ve spent 3-5 minutes on this list, take time to thank God for these friends and to pray for God to bless them and your friendship together.
- Scripture Response: Read and memorize 1 John 4:7  
*“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.  
Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.”*
- Prayer: encourage students to use their notebooks to record prayer requests and pray for the group members throughout the week.
  - How can we pray for our friends today?
  - How can we pray for our own friendliness today?
  - How can we pray for friends of our family today?
  - CLOSE IN PRAYER.