

**Month:** September 2012

**Scripture:** 1st Corinthians 15:33

**Food for Thought:** Do not be deceived evil company corrupts good habit



Everyone needs a friend. That's why God tells us that "Two are better than one." Everyone needs to love and be loved. We all need that "closer than a brother" person who doubles our joy and divides our grief. We all need someone who understands our silence. We all need someone who comes in when the whole world has gone out. No man is an island. **But we also need the right kind of friends, not just anyone will do!!**

God's word says it is important to carefully choose the people with whom you associate. Why? Invariably you become like them! if you are careful to invest your time and effort in relationships with the wise you will wake up one day and realise that you too have become wise. "He who walks with wise men will be wise but the companion of fools will be destroyed" This is not the time to be just around anybody! The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Maybe right about now you need to make some tough decisions about your calibre of inner circle of friends. Don't put it off. The whole direction of your spiritual life hangs in the choices you make. If you drop a white glove in the mud...the mud doesn't become 'glovey' ...the glove becomes "muddy." This is especially true in relationships. Godless friendships will themselves become godless.....People who think wrongly invariably behave wrongly. Wrong behaviour comes from wrong thinking, from wrong beliefs and wrong standards. It is impossible to associate regularly with wicked minded people without being contaminated both by their ideas and by their habits.

Take a close look at the kind of people you hang around with. Who do you spend most of your time with? Are you a companion of fools whose company is leading you into compromise, harm and is corrupting your character? Or are you friends with the wise & God fearing whose company is good for your soul and spirit? (Ps 1:1-2) Are you a Blessed man/woman who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers? But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. According to the psalmist, that person is blessed who avoids bad companions and makes the law of the Lord his companion.

Here is a challenge for you - take five minutes and do a friendship inventory and evaluate your relationships ASAP...you will be surprised at how much you have been tolerating.

Love

*Mercy*