

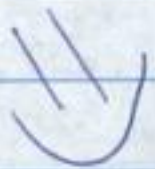
LOVE & FRIENDSHIP

A friend is someone who likes you. Never mind the word love. Love is an obligation for Christians but to like someone, well, that's a choice.

We all do things that are bewildering for others to accept - especially those who know us best. True friendship gets above strange distinctions and ugly habits and accepts others as they are. When things go awry, it doesn't matter, they overlook them as if they were blindfolded.

Solomon wrote the following scripture in Proverbs: "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." The idea that Solomon wants us to comprehend is that friends can do by choice what is to be expected at all times of family members. A true friend is a constant source of love, while a brother in one's family may not be close, but is drawn near to help in trouble. Friends are a true source of unconditional love because they are available all the time, not just in a crisis.

When we enter into times of adversity, when one's world is turned upside down, when life no longer makes sense, strong human relationships - friendships - are critical. Love listens when we have nothing particularly interesting to say. It listens because only when we have been heard and validated, do we feel cherished. Friends make all this a reality.



Rehelle Williams # V69138
P.O. Box 5248 A3-17-5
CORCORAN, CA 93212

