

June 30, 2024

## **Friends and Our Heart**

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**Proverbs 27:9-17** <sup>9</sup>Oil and incense bring joy to the heart, and the sweetness of a friend is counsel to the soul. <sup>10</sup>Do not forsake your friend or your father's friend, and do not go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity; better a neighbor nearby than a brother far away. <sup>11</sup>Be wise, my son, and bring joy to my heart, so that I can answer him who taunts me. <sup>12</sup>The prudent see danger and take cover; but the simple keep going and pay the penalty. <sup>13</sup>Take the garment of him who posts security for a stranger; get collateral if it is for a foreigner. <sup>14</sup>If one blesses his neighbor with a loud voice early in the morning, it will be counted to him as a curse. <sup>15</sup>A constant dripping on a rainy day and a contentious woman are alike— <sup>16</sup>restraining her is like holding back the wind or grasping oil with one's right hand. <sup>17</sup>As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another. (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

**A.** There are healthy strategies to **strengthen** your inner self. V. 9-10

Some of these are a healthy environment and good friends.

**B.** **Family** is a great support to one's heart and soul. V. 11

**C.** We must be **aware** of our situation and show common sense. V. 12

**D.** We must be **wise** in our financial dealings. It is important that we do not cave to **toxic** compassion. V. 13

**E.** We must be aware of how we are coming across to **others**. We may not be communicating what we are intending to communicate. V. 14

**F.** We must choose our friends **carefully**. People who love to cause **drama** are hard to deal with. V. 15-16

**G.** A good friend will **challenge** you and make you a better person. V. 17

II. Let's pray through each point.