

## STAY CONNECTED!

Looking for a Life Group or just want to keep up to date with the latest on Every Nation Brisbane's events or podcasts?

Download the free app and stay connected.  
Available on the *Apple App Store* and *Google Play*.



**EVERY NATION**  
BRISBANE

© 2019 by EVERY NATION BRISBANE®

All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Permission to photocopy this material is granted for local church use. This is not for sale.

[www.enbrisbane.org](http://www.enbrisbane.org)



### PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you that you call us into friendship with you. Thank you for exemplifying friendship in laying your life down for us in order to welcome us home. We pray for the grace to do the same for others! In Jesus' name, Amen.

### WARM UP

(OPTIONAL)

Name a time when you felt welcomed in an unfamiliar environment. Who helped you feel welcome, and what was it about them that did that for you?

### NOTES

## WORD

<sup>16</sup> A man's gift makes room for him and brings him before the great. <sup>17</sup> The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him. <sup>18</sup> The lot puts an end to quarrels and decides between powerful contenders.

<sup>19</sup> A brother offended is more unyielding than a strong city, and quarreling is like the bars of a castle. <sup>20</sup> From the fruit of a man's mouth his stomach is satisfied; he is satisfied by the yield of his lips. <sup>21</sup> Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits. <sup>22</sup> He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord. <sup>23</sup> The poor use entreaties, but the rich answer roughly. <sup>24</sup> A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

### [PROVERBS 18:16-24](#)

**When we consider how we might grow as resilient disciples of Jesus, especially in times where isolation and mistrust become more prevalent in the way we live, we must keep in mind that DISCIPLESHIP IS A HUMAN RELATIONSHIP EXPERIENCE. In a climate of ISOLATION and MISTRUST, resilient disciples should grow in meaningful and intergenerational relationships.**

**These relationships have these qualities:**

- 1. use their strengths as tools to serve others (vs 16)**
- 2. can bear with criticism as opportunities for growth (vs 17)**
- 3. refuse to be offended (vs 18-19)**
- 4. use their words to build others up, not to tear down (vs 20-21)**
- 5. are loyal to the bitter end (vs 24)**

## GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale from 1 to 10, how would you rate the depth of your friendships? Why do you rate yourself this way?
2. Think about your closest friends that are not family. What are some things you have in common? What are the qualities you love about them?
3. Do you have any mentors in your friendship circle that are not necessarily your parents or spouse? If so, what is it that you respect about them? If not, would you like to have mentors that can speak truthfully into your life?

4. How transparent are you with your closest friends? How are they able to help you find Christ amidst your difficult times?
5. What kind of friend are you? Describe how *you* are a friend to your closest friends? Would they say the same of you?

## PRAYER LIST