

# Friendships

## It's Complicated - Part 2

### May 2, 2022

#### Why are friendships so complicated?

People

People make up the most **incredible** parts of life.

People make up the most **painful** parts of life.

“Outside of Jesus, relationships are the greatest gifts we have on earth and simultaneously the most difficult part of being alive.” - Jennie Allen

#### Why are friendships so necessary?

The people you listen to the most are a preview of a future you.

“This is my **command**: Love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this: to **lay down his life for his friends**.” John 15:12-13 (CSB)

### Four Dynamics of Healthy Friendships

#### 1. Availability: Purposeful Presence

“One with many friends may be harmed, but there is a friend who **stays closer than a brother**.” Proverbs 18:24 (CSB)

#### 2. Authenticity: Keeping it Real

“Carry one another’s burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2 (CSB)

#### 3. Accountability: Making Each other Better

“Iron sharpens iron, and one person **sharpens** another.” Proverbs 27:17 (CSB)

“The wounds of a friend are trustworthy, but the kisses of an enemy are excessive.” Proverbs 27:6 (CSB)

“Accountability always feels like accusation to the arrogant.” - Tedashii.

Who in your life has wisdom to speak into your life?

#### 4. Advocacy: Having Each Other’s Backs

“A friend loves **at all times**, and a brother is born for a difficult time.” Proverbs 17:17 (CSB)

Friends fight for each other and alongside each other.

Friends love in a way that demands explanation.

*“By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.”* John 13:35 (CSB)