# **% FIND A FRIEND**

God created you for friendship. But what makes someone a good or healthy friend, where can you find them, and how do you build godly friendships in your life? Use the lists below and on the following page to get started.

## QUALITIES OF A FRIEND:

FRIENDS encourage and speak life (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

**FRIENDS** are quick to listen (James 1:19)

FRIENDS put the needs of others first (Philippians 2:3-4)

**FRIENDS** help each other become the healthiest version of themselves (Proverbs 27:17)

FRIENDS always point each other to Jesus (Acts 4:20)

## WHERE TO FIND A FRIEND:

**CHURCH** (student gatherings, serve teams)

**FAMILY** (brothers, sisters, cousins)

**COMMON AREAS OF INTEREST** (sports, theater, passions/hobbies)

**SCHOOL** (classmates, clubs, sports)

FRIENDS CAN BE FOUND ANYWHERE!



## FIND A FRIEND (continued...)

## **HOW TO BUILD GODLY FRIENDSHIPS:**

**GO FIRST** Introduce yourself, invite someone to hang out, or ask them to sit next to you at school

**BE AUTHENTIC** Be yourself, be honest, and let them get to know the real you

GET TO KNOW THEM AND THEIR INTERESTS Talk more about them than yourself, ask questions, and listen to their responses with your ears and heart

**MAKE TIME FOR THEM** Be present, focus on them, and put your phone down

**MOST IMPORTANTLY**, be the kind of friend you want others to be for you

## HOW TO START A CONVERSATION:

**DECIDE WHO YOU WANT TO START A CONVERSATION WITH** Choose someone who seems welcoming, friendly, and has similar values, hobbies, or personality traits

CHOOSE A LOW-PRESSURE ENVIRONMENT Do you see them at church, have a class together, or pass them while walking across campus?

**START SMALL** Start with a simple head nod or a smile on day one, say "hi" or "hello" on day two, ask "how are you?" on day three, and keep taking steps until you build up to a full conversation

**START WITH OBVIOUS TOPICS** Ask them guestions about something you have in common (church, hobbies, classes/assignments, or sports teams)

**DON'T OVERTHINK IT** Stay positive and be patient – every friendship starts with a single conversation, but great friendships take time

