**Be Authentic**

[**John 15:13-15**](https://www.bible.com/en-GB/verse-of-the-day/JHN.15.13/470?version=111) *Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.*

Trust is at the center of every authentic friendship.

It’s true. We’ve all experienced fake friendships, acquaintances, or Facebook friends, but real friendships are based on two-way trust. Trust is built on authenticity. Being who you really are.

When you choose to help One person you love find the God who loves them, you aren’t trying to sell something, or turn someone into a project. You are looking to build real relationships. Real friendship. Friendship is a two-way street.

That means you have to be authentic as you build trust.

– You need to share the challenges you are facing.
– You need to be honest about a bad day.
– You need to ask for advice authentically.
– You need to be honest about your faults.
– You need to be you. Not the “I have it together” version of you.
– Be honest that you don’t have all the answers.

The beauty of friendship is that as two people chose to trust, their relationship grows richer. God’s given us the gift of friendship as we grow together. God wants to give you that gift with the people around you. Time and trust create the richest friendships.

**LIVE**

Examine your own relationships with people in your life who don’t know Jesus’ love for them. Are you being vulnerable with them? Are you pursuing an authentic and real friendship? Are you turning people into projects, or does your heart have the posture of reflecting Jesus’ love for the people in your life?

**PRAY**

God show me the relationships in my life where I need to be more authentic. Help me to have the courage to be my real self, and to share my life with the people around me. God, when people are vulnerable with me, help me to honor that trust with grace and truth.