

Friendship



A PRAYER TO BEGIN WITH

O Divine Providence! This assemblage is composed of Thy friends who are attracted to Thy beauty and are set ablaze by the fire of Thy love. Turn these souls into heavenly angels, resuscitate them through the breath of Thy Holy Spirit, grant them eloquent tongues and resolute hearts, bestow upon them heavenly power and merciful susceptibilities, cause them to become the promulgators of the oneness of mankind and the cause of love and concord in the world of humanity, so that the perilous darkness of ignorant prejudice may vanish through the light of the Sun of Truth, this dreary world may become illumined, this material realm may absorb the rays of the world of spirit, these different colors may merge into one color and the melody of praise may rise to the kingdom of Thy sanctity.

Verily, Thou art the Omnipotent and the Almighty!

—*‘Abdu’l-Bahá*

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.


—*The Bible: John 15:12-13*

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

—The Bible: Romans 12:10

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up...

—The Bible: Thessalonians 5:11



Do not be content with showing friendship in words alone, let your heart burn with loving kindness for all who may cross your path.

— *'Abdu'l-Bahá*

Walking with a friend in
the dark is better than
walking alone in the light

— *Buddha*



Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

—*The Bible: Colossians 3:12-14*

I charge you all that each one of you concentrate all the thoughts of your heart on love and unity. When a thought of war comes, oppose it by a stronger thought of peace. A thought of hatred must be destroyed by a more powerful thought of love. Thoughts of war bring destruction to all harmony, well-being, restfulness and content.

Thoughts of love are constructive of brotherhood, peace, friendship, and happiness.

If you desire with all your heart, friendship with every race on earth, your thought, spiritual and positive, will spread; it will become the desire of others, growing stronger and stronger, until it reaches the minds of all men.

—*‘Abdu’l-Bahá*

Every other bond of friendship is limited in effectiveness, but fellowship based upon the love of God is unlimited, everlasting, divine and radiant.

— *'Abdu'l-Bahá*


Always love your friends
from your heart and not
from your needs.

—*Buddha*



Some of the biggest challenges in relationships come from the fact that most people enter a relationship in order to get something: they're trying to find someone who's going to make them feel good. In reality, the only way a relationship will last is if you see your relationship as a place that you go to give, and not a place that you go to take.

—*Anthony Robbins*



We must learn to live together as brothers or
perish together as fools.

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

I don't like that man. I must get to know him better.

—*Abraham Lincoln*

Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?

—*Abraham Lincoln*

To follow a path of service, whatever form one's activity assumes, requires faith and tenacity. In this connection, the benefit of walking that path in the company of others is immense. Loving fellowship, mutual encouragement, and willingness to learn together are natural properties of any group...sincerely striving for the same ends...

—*The Universal House of Justice*

Ye are the fruits of one tree, and the leaves of one branch. Deal ye one with another with the utmost love and harmony, with friendliness and fellowship. He Who is the Daystar of Truth beareth Me witness! So powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth.

—*Bahá'u'lláh*

