

Characteristics of Positive Friendships!

KINGMAKER, Pt. 4

1 Kings 10:1-13, 1 Kings 16:29-33

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Proverbs 14:11, *The house of the wicked will be destroyed, but the tent of the upright will flourish.*

Proverbs 14:34, *Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people.*

2 Kings 10:15, ... Jehu greeted him and said, “Are you in accord with me, as I am with you?” “I am,” Jehonadab answered. “If so,” said Jehu, “give me your hand.” So he did, and Jehu helped him up into the chariot.

Proverbs 12:26, *The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.*

Ecclesiastes 4:9, *Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: 10 If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.*

Proverbs 19:20, *Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise.*

Negative Consequences of Bad Relationships:

1 Kings 16:29, *In the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, **Ahab** son of Omri became king of Israel, and he reigned in Samaria over Israel twenty-two years. 30 Ahab son of Omri did more evil in the eyes of the LORD than any of those before him. 31 He not only considered it trivial to commit the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, but he also married Jezebel daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and began to serve Baal and worship him. 32 He set up an*

altar for Baal in the temple of Baal that he built in Samaria. 33 Ahab also made an Asherah pole and did more to arouse the anger of the LORD, the God of Israel, than did all the kings of Israel before him.

- Their Sin INCREASED
- Their Faith DECREASED
- Their Reputations Were DESTROYED
- Their Nation SUFFERED

Five Characteristics of Positive Friendships:

1. Positive Friendships Are Formed In PERSON

1 Kings 10:1, *When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relationship to the LORD, she came to test Solomon with hard questions. 2 Arriving at Jerusalem with a very great caravan—with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold, and precious stones—*

2. Positive Friendships Have Open and Honest DIALOGUE

1 Kings 10:2, ... she came to Solomon and talked with him about all that she had on her mind. 3 Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was too hard for the king to explain to her. 4 When the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon and the palace he had built, 5 the food on his table, the seating of his officials, the attending servants in their robes, his cupbearers, and the burnt offerings he made at the temple of the LORD, she was overwhelmed.

3. Positive Friendships Are Filled With AFFIRMATIONS

1 Kings 10:6, *She said to the king, “The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true. 7 But I did not believe these things until I came and saw with my own eyes. Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth you have far exceeded the report I heard. 8 How happy your people must be! How happy your officials, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom!*

4. Positive Friendships Speak Openly About FAITH

1 Kings 10:9, *Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD’s eternal love for Israel, he has made you king to maintain justice and righteousness.”*

5. Positive Friendships Are Mutually BENEFICIAL

1 Kings 10:10, *And she gave the king 120 talents of gold, large quantities of spices, and precious stones. Never again were so many spices brought in as those the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon... 13 King Solomon gave the queen of Sheba all she desired and asked for, besides what he had given her out of his royal bounty. Then she left and returned with her retinue to her own country.*