



**INSIGHT: A STUDY OF PROVERBS**

THE ABILITY TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT PATH IN LIFE

DENNIS CARROW



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Seeking Love:  
Tests Of True Friendship  
Proverbs 17 - 19

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# Proper Relationships are Formed by Those Who Seek Love (Read Proverbs 17)

### How do you respond to:

- Lies and unkind things said about others (v. 4)?
- News of tragedy or trouble experienced by others (v. 5)?
- The mistakes and shortcomings of others (v. 9; Matt. 18)?
- Someone correcting you (vv. 10,11)?

## Seeking Love: Tests Of True Friendship

### **Friendship qualities are developed by:**

- Resolving problems before they start.  
(V.14) Keeping a secret (vs. 9).
- Being loyal in times of trouble (vs. 9,17).
- Two critical aspects in all relationships is maintaining a calm disposition at all times, and thinking things through before you say them (vs. 27-28).

## Seeking Love: Tests Of True Friendship

**Self-Centered Conversation is a  
Reproach to One's Character**  
(Read Proverbs 18)

## Seeking Love: Tests Of True Friendship

- A practical application of effective communication is to express appreciation for an anticipated desirable response (v. 16).
- Be prepared for a rebuttal when stating your side of some occurrence (v. 17).
- Sometimes the best method of settling a matter is to flip a coin (v. 18).

## Seeking Love: Tests Of True Friendship

- Saying the wrong thing can create a wall of resistance (v. 19).
- The art of persuasion is the best approach for the underdog (v. 23).
- To find a life long companion is a good thing (v. 22)!

**Seeking Love: Tests Of True Friendship**

**Fair Weathered Friends  
Will Fail Us  
(Read Proverbs 19)**



## Seeking Love: Tests Of True Friendship

### **Meditate and Memorize:**

*“A man who has friends must  
himself be friendly,  
But there is a friend who sticks  
closer than a brother.”*

Proverbs 18:24

## Questions to Consider

1. Make a practical application of 17:13.  
Identify at least two aspects of being a good friend.
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_
2. How is a merry heart like medicine (17:22) and how does the spirit of man sustain him in sickness (18:14a)?