Proverbs, Friendship, and My Life

The Beginning of Knowledge

1 The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:

2 To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight,
3 to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity,
4 to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth—
5 Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance,
6 to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles.
7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, fools despise wisdom and instruction.

The Enticement of Sinners

8 Hear, my son, your father’s instruction, and forsake not your mother’s teaching,
Friendship and the Proverbs

1) Choose your friends wisely!
He who walks with wise men will be wise,
But the companion of fools will suffer harm.
Proverbs 14:7

7 Leave the presence of a fool, Or you will not discern words of knowledge.
24 Do not associate with a man given to anger; 
Or go with a hot-tempered man, 
25 Or you will learn his ways 
And find a snare for yourself.
Proverbs 23:20-21

20 Do not be with heavy drinkers of wine,  
Or with gluttonous eaters of meat;  
21 For the heavy drinker and the glutton will come to poverty,  
And drowsiness will clothe one with rags.
1 Do not be envious of evil men, 
Nor desire to be with them;
2 For their minds devise violence, 
And their lips talk of trouble.
2) Friends help carry burdens.
Proverbs 17:17

17 A friend loves at all times,  
And a brother is born for adversity.
24 A man of *too many* friends *comes* to ruin,
But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.
3) Friends tell the truth.
Proverbs 27:6

6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.
John 15:15

5 No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.
Friendship and Our Life

1) Friendship will make an impact on my life direction.
14 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?
2) Friendship will make an impact on our church family.
Acts 2:42,44

42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

...  

44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common;
3) Friendship will make an impact on our church outreach.

1 Now all the tax collectors and the sinners were coming near Him to listen to Him.

2 Both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”
The Value of Godly Friendship

PROVERBS

Chapter 1

The Beginning of Knowledge

"The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:

1. To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight,
   to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity,
   to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth—

2. Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance,
   to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles.

7. "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, fools despise wisdom and instruction.

The Enticement of Sinners

Hear, my son, your father’s instruction, and forsake not your mother’s teaching,

[Continued with Proverbs 2:1-19]
1 Now it came about when he had finished speaking to Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as himself.
And Jonathan, Saul’s son, arose and went to David at Horesh, and encouraged him in God.
22 You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected;
23 and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS,” and he was called the friend of God.