

**MEN and WOMEN**  
**“The culture of FRIENDS” Part 1**  
**Jeff Wall**

*“Become wise by walking with the wise; hang out with fools and watch your life fall to pieces.”*  
Proverbs 13:20 (MSG)

**THE BATTLE FOR HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS**

**FRIENDSHIPS DRIVEN BY CULTURAL VALUES**

*“Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.”* I John 2:15 (NLT)

**WOMEN**

1. perception
2. comparison
3. insecurity

**Result: disconnected**

**MEN**

1. culture of competition
2. leads to acquaintances
3. creates a culture of self-sufficiency

**Result: isolated**

**COMMON DENOMINATOR: alone**

**The kicker on this part is we sign up for our culture’s way!**

**FRIENDSHIPS DRIVEN BY CHRIST’S VALUES**

*“While David was at Horesh in the Desert of Ziph, he learned that Saul had come out to take his life. And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God. ‘Don't be afraid,’ he said. ‘My father Saul will not lay a hand on you. You will be king over Israel, and I will be second to you. Even my father Saul knows this.’ The two of them made a covenant before the LORD. Then Jonathan went home, but David remained at Horesh.”*  
I Samuel 23:15-18 (NIV)

*“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”* Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)

**Three of Christ's values that will give you transformation in your friendships**

**WOMEN**

1. transparency
2. it develops respect and trust
3. encouragement

**MEN**

1. confession
2. relational depth
3. depending on a brother

C. S. Lewis said "Real friendship occurs when one man says to another, 'What? You too?'"

**Result: culture of acceptance in Christ**

**Result: culture of affirmation in Christ**

**COMMON DENOMINATOR: these two healthy cultures offer HELP**

**The kicker on this part is we don't fight for the new cultures.**

**How Do We Help Each Other?**

**Women Helping Men**

**Men Helping Women**

*"Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart." 2 Timothy 2:22 (NIV)*

**GET IN!**

- **To a Discussion Group**
- **To B.O.O.S.T.**
- **M.O.P.S.**
- **Men's or Women's Retreat**
- **FUEL for Youth on Friday**
- **Helping with "A Change of Heart" April 4<sup>th</sup> Easter at the Carlson**