



CHARMS AND STYLES OF FRIENDSHIP

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George Washington once said “True friendship is a plant of slow growth, and must undergo and withstand the shocks of adversity, before it is entitled to the appellation”. Perhaps you would examine yourself and find out why is it in a slow growth wherein you truly believe yourself that your relationship to your friend should pace in accordance to the track you're heading on. But did you ask yourself on how do you choose your friend? How are your friends come along in your comfort zone? It is a fact that there are different kinds of friends that surround us. Friends are the ones who will support you aside from your family. No matter what people say about the friends you have or the friendship you care, it is still the substance of your friendship that guarantees, that leads, that flows to its final and truthful designation. These substances would measure the depths of your relationship to your friend and friends. There are unexpected moments that would come which definitely bring the troubles, the hardships the quarrels and the like. A genuine friendship should be strong and cannot be easily broken.

We can precisely tell that animals are such wonderful creatures, as they ask no questions. Humans and animals have been known to have a special bond with each other ever since. As the famous saying reminds ‘A dog is a man's best friend’. The relation that we share with animals is a very warm and protective one. There are many factors that would matter when we try to see and view the different shades of friendship. There is a shade that would give us comfort or a shade that would darken our path to our endless journey. It is hard to conclude and prove that a friendship is real. The moment you establish a friendship to someone is not an essential proof that this partnership is true. It would take a long time to blend the blows of the wind to prove it. Maybe you have experienced a certain situation wherein you were not in good terms to somebody among your friends. It's because there are conflicts. It's because there are misunderstandings. It's because there are disagreements. And much more, there are arguments and differences of opinions and ideas. Can you visualize the framework of friendship you are taking of? There are sometimes on and off situations, highs and lows experiences and left and right decisions. An understanding friend is always at peace and calm. He doesn't react negatively. A doubtful friend is always undecided. He doesn't say anything that is sure of. A coincidental friend comes unexpectedly. His acquaintance is uncertain. A mutual friend is familiar. He is common among friends. A truthful friend never tells lies. He holds the truth of knowledge and wisdom. A good friend has a good heart. He is kind and noble. A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out according to Walter Winchell. He is brave and courageous. A kind friend is nice and understanding. He is thoughtful. However, a fake friend is an impostor. He pretends and deceives. He speaks insincerely. A snobbish friend is a social climber. He believes and admires people of high rank or social class, and dislikes those in a lower class than himself.

We are aware and really tend to meet new people day in and day out but out of those various people, we tend to be friends with only those who share some similar dreams, ambitions, traits or attitudes. As time grows and passes by with trust, with convictions and faithfulness, some people get really close to each other and remain true friends. Even if they are far from you, they stand up for each other in times of need and provide full support of encouragement and guidance when you lose confidence in yourself. The fact that different people have different temperaments and manners, forms and styles, hence make different types of friends, we spend many nights, we observe many days and we ask many questions in order to blend our style and charm as far as friendship is concerned.

Questions for discussion:

1. What is friendship? Use your own ideas/opinions to support your answer.
2. What is your ideal friend?
3. How do you measure a true friend? Give an example.
4. Why do we need to establish a true friendship?
5. Give an insight from this saying “Tell me who your friends are and I will tell you who you are”.