

**MACHAIRA**  
**CHRIST COMMONWEALTH-COMMUNITY**

**The Love-Life Agency**

By Benjamin Nana Amissah Ansah

**MACHAIRA**

*(Pronounced makh'-ahee-rah)*

- Daily revelatory thoughts to sharpen you and to help you grow in deep spiritual understanding and knowledge.
- Scriptures for your daily meditation.
- Daily Christ-centered and apostolic-prophetic prayers.

*Friday, 18th August, 2023*

**WHO IS YOUR FRIEND?**

***"Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals." 1 Corinthians 15:33 (NASB)***

Friendship is not evil nor wrong. Friendship can help you in many ways as you journey into greatness.

However, the company of friends you keep will determine if you will arrive at that greatness you have envisioned or not.

Many great destinies have been crushed because of the associations they kept.

The thing is, whether you want it or not, your friends will influence you in a particular way.

You cannot be prayerful when your friends are not prayerful. It doesn't matter how prayerful you are, when you keep those friends for long, and you don't see them becoming prayerful, you must know that your prayerlessness has become worse than theirs.

Your burning desire of love for the Lord can be watered down by wrong association.

Imagine being in a company of gossips? Precious one, your days will be flooded with negativity, conflicts and emotional disturbance.

You may even develop hatred for people God has sent to strengthen you, and you will avoid them because of a gossip. Instead of discerning the integrity of the hearts of people, you will discredit them; because a gossip you call a friend couldn't keep his or her mouth shut.

Do you have a friend who is always or often talking about the weakness of others? Some friends will even use the excuse of *"let's pray for someone"* to talk about people in a way that will sow seeds of bitterness and pain in your heart. And instead of praying for others you will be embittered.

Be careful of such friends.

Friends who cannot keep secrets of others are dangerous.

They will soon announce your weakness and wrongs to the world.

***"A gossip goes around spreading rumors, while a trustworthy man tries to quiet them."*** Proverbs 11:13 (TLB)

Such gossips are also judgmental and legalistic. They are always wise in their eyes and act as though they are fighting evil.

Yet whiles they are busily denigrating, condemning and spreading rumours of others, God is patiently working on and building those same people they are denigrating.

***"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."***

Ephesians 4:29

These two verses above really saved me from a lot of damage.

When you are in a company of an angry friend, you will soon be influenced or affected by their approach to life.

***" Make no friendship with an angry man, and with a furious man do not go, Lest you learn his ways and set a snare for your soul".*** Proverbs 22:24-25 (NKJV)

See the same verses in the The Passion Translation:

***"Walk away from an angry man or you'll embrace a snare in your soul by becoming bad-tempered just like him".***

Now you shouldn't assume you are too strong and cannot be corrupted by the wrong companions.

***"Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."*** 1 Corinthians 15:33

Now in this verse of scripture, Paul was specifically speaking to the saints to avoid those who speak against the resurrection of Jesus.

Having a company of friends who don't believe in Jesus, and you are always spending time together with them all in the name of soul-winning, will corrupt your faith. Seek counsel immediately from your Church leader.

This doesn't suggest you should live like an island.

God didn't create us to be isolated from every one. He shows us the importance of having good friends

*"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another."* Hebrews 10:24-25

You wouldn't always have friends who don't have any weakness. Definitely people may have their own weaknesses. However, do they see it as weakness? Are they making efforts to seek help? Or they don't even think it is a weakness and feel they are right to behave that way?

*"A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity."* Proverbs 17:17

A true friend doesn't take pride in the failure of others. A true friend is a shield of strength.

Maintain a company of friends who inspire you with the vision of God and direct your passion towards the Lord.

*"Sweet friendships refresh the soul and awaken our hearts with joy, for good friends are like the anointing oil that yields the fragrant incense of God's presence."* Proverbs 27:9 (TPT)

Friends who overwhelm you with wise counsel of the Lord are treasures.

Who is your friend?

Selah.

**DIG DEEPER:**

(Proverbs 13:20; 27:17; Psalm 1:1; Psalm 101:5-6; Proverbs 16:28-29; John 15:14; James 4:4; Proverbs 22:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:11)

**WE PRAY:**

That through wisdom, we will discern and demonstrate the righteousness of God in every relationship.

**BIBLE READING**

Day 194

Psalms 71 - 73

Mark 1- 2

**DECLARE THESE WORDS:**

- I am mindful of my association.
- I demonstrate wisdom in all my relationships.
- Through the wisdom of the scriptures, I guide my heart with all diligence.
- I make the right judgment in all things.
- I don't glory in the weaknesses of others.
- Through love I strengthen others.
- I am full of wisdom.
- I am full of love.

Oh Hallelujah, GLOREEEY!