

Do You Have A Soul Mate?

Do you have a best friend? Who is it? _____

What are the qualities/characteristics of such a person?

There are different kinds of friends, most of which fall into one of four different categories. Let's do a "friends" inventory today.

- **The "social" friend** – This is the friend that we want to go out on Friday nights with. They are fun, free spirited, and just enjoyable to be around.

Do you have one of these? _____

Social friendships are great, but what do they lack? What's missing?

- **The "stage-of-life" friend** – This is the friend that we have, simply b/c we are in the same class at school, we have kids the same age, we are in PTO together, we are both "empty nesters", we are both retired, etc.

Do you have one of these? _____

Being in the same stage-of-life brings people together, but these friendships are often based upon external circumstances, that when those external circumstances are removed, so too are the friendships.

- **The "seasonal" friend** – This is the friend that we are really close to "sometimes". Other times, due to the busyness of life or just a lack of intentionality, this person plays relatively little, to no, role in our life.

Do you have one of these? _____

I have many of these types of friendships, and they are great when it's "in-season". The problem comes, when a true friend is needed and you haven't seen or talked to this person in months/years.

- **The "soul" mate** – This is the friend that we can bear our soul to, and they to us. This is the friend that knows the good, the bad, and the ugly about us and they love us anyway. This is the friend that knows just when to call, what to say at just the right time, a friend that can speak words to us that we can really hear simply because of who they are.

This is a Proverbs 18:24 kind of friend - **"...who sticks closer than a brother."**

A soul mate doesn't have to refer to two people romantically tied together, it can refer to a friendship that is so close that it goes deeper than blood. **It's when the heart & soul of two people are truly "in tune" with each other.**

Do you have one of these? _____

Good friends are hard to find! And the ladies are usually far better at this than the guys. Statistic – "Only 10% of men ever have any real friends." It's hard to find & experience real, true friendships – but it's possible!

Seeking a Proverbs-driven friendship is the key to finding your soul mate!

Proverbs 18:24 – "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

There is a difference between companions/acquaintances and a true friend! **The difference is commitment!** Have you ever made a vow to a friend?

An example from David & Jonathan's friendship - **1 Samuel 18:1-5a.**

Proverbs 17:17 – "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." A true friend/brother walks with us through the **storms!**

An example from David and Jonathan's friendship – 1 Samuel 20

Proverbs 27:9 – "Perfume and incense brings joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of one's friend springs from his earnest counsel."

Do we invite **counsel** into our lives from trusted friends, and vice versa? Example: David and Jonathan's friendship – **1 Samuel 20:1**

Proverbs 27:17 – "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." True friends help each other grow into the people **God** calls us to be!

An example from David and Jonathan's friendship – **1 Samuel 23:15-18**

Your soul mate might not be what you would have expected!

But having a soul mate is so important to living into God's calling on our lives **to be His image-bearers!** Do you have a Jonathon-like person in your life? You need it, so seek it out & rejoice when you find it! **Eccles. 4:9-10**

10-7-18 Do You Have A Soul Mate?

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