

***Prov 17:17***

***A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.***

***Prov 27:6***

***Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.***

***Eccl 4:10***

***If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!***

### **Counselor or Friend**

(The musings of a man who has chosen to be a friend)

Counseling exchanges money for services; friendship is provided pro bono.

Counseling requires much education and skill; friendship requires great endurance.

Counseling is generally short term; friendship is best accomplished over the long haul.

Counseling generally deals with a few specific issues; friendship generally requires walking with another through many of life's joys and heartaches.

Counseling usually takes place in an office; friendship exists wherever people enjoy a common bond of affection

Counseling often deals with how one feels; friendship asks "how did you offend God?"

Counseling focuses on the past; friendship helps one enjoy the present.

Counseling is guided by professional ethics; friendship is guided by *agape* love.

A counselor provides good advice; a friend contends in prayer.

A counselor will generally cease from seeing someone who does not make progress; a friend embraces a "no write off" policy.

There are many skilled counselors --- but few great friends.

***John 15:13***

***Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.***

