



April 26, 2009

## FRIENDSHIP: Cowards Need Not Apply

*(How to be the friend you've always wanted)*  
SERIES: Fight Back!! (03 of 07)  
by Dr. David Foster

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"God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone.'" (Gen 2:18 NIV)

"For **none of us lives to himself alone** and none of us dies to himself alone." (Rom 14:7 NIV)

### How Fake Friends Stay Fit

By **throwing** people **under the bus**.

By **running** for **cover**.

By **jumping** to **conclusions**.

### The 5 Can's of a Courageous Friend

A CF can be **bothered**.

A CF can be **there**.

"He who is not **with me** is **against me**, and he who does not gather with me scatters." (Mat 12:30 NIV)

A CF can be **inconvenienced**.

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in **humility consider others better than yourselves**. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." (Phil 2:1)

A CF can be **honest**.

"Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ." (Eph 4:15 NIV)

A CF can be **counted on**.

"***A friend loves at all times***, and a brother is born for adversity." (Prov 17:17)

### How To Be the Friend You've Always Wanted

Be **genuine** with **praise**.

"Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; someone else, and not your own lips." (Prov 27:2)

Be **generous** with **time**.

"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." (Heb 10:25)

Be **gentle** with **correction**.

"For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own **encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God**, who calls you into his kingdom and glory." (1 Th 2:11)

Be **gracious** with **resources**.

"Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act." (Prov 3:27)