**7-7-19**

**Sermon Reflection:** On Sunday, Keith Boyd covered Topic #2 of the Life Hacks series in the book of Proverbs on **Friendship.** Proverbs is full of verses on friendship because the purpose of Proverbs is to teach us how to live successful lives, and to do what is right, just and fair (Prov 1:3) and friendship is an essential ingredient. We are designed by God to be in relationships, and He gave us a natural longing for deep friendships.

Keith started with Proverbs 17:17 *“A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need.”* He explained that the word friend and brother are the same in this verse meaning that a true friend is both loyal and helpful in time of need.

Keith suggested that not only to we each need a loyal friend, but we need *to be* a loyal friend.

We can all say that we have at least one true friend because of our relationship with God. Despite being the Creator God, Jesus calls us his friends. And He proved his loyalty to us in that while we were still his enemies, He gave his life to save us from death. Through the Holy Spirit, he is always there for us, and is constantly interceding to the Father for us.

**Prayer and Application:**

1. Think of your closest friend(s). Have you given him/her the right to speak truth into your life? What do you do to cultivate being a loyal and truthful friend in return?
2. If your friendships are not especially deep, ask God to reveal any beliefs or behaviors that might be contributing to that.
3. Are your closest friends a good influence (Prov 12:26)? If not, ask God to show you any changes he would like you to make.