Dear Parents,

Friends are an important part of life. We all want and need them. Making friends, however, is an art that everyone needs to learn—your preschooler included. Please watch video below as it lines out how to help you in teaching your preschooler how to make friends the right way. One of the best things about being a parent is being able to watch your children enjoy the things that come with having friends. Their smiles, giggles, fun, and games are memories you will place in your heart and hold on to for a lifetime. Let me know how I can be of help to you in teaching your child to make and be a good friend.

<https://vimeo.com/parentministry/review/149140807/7866a27705>

Friends are a very important part of life. Jesus had friends. Twelve good friends and from those twelve, three close friends, and from those three, one BFF named John. Below are some suggestions on how to make your preschooler’s early experiences in the world of friends will be positive experiences:

#1 Don’t overwhelm your preschooler by offering too many playdates and too many faces at a time.

#2 Don’t push your preschooler to be friends with someone YOU think they should be friends with. Let them gravitate towards the people they feel most compatible with. That’s what you do, isn’t it?

#3 Take the time to really know your child—what they enjoy doing, where they enjoy spending time, the activities they most enjoy, and whether or not they prefer small groups, one-on-one, or large group settings. Take your cue from these things to put your child in these situations to make friends.

#4 Teach, use, and reinforce their use of manners at home so they will use them with others.

#5 Don’t expect too much. Preschoolers are learning how to make and be friends. They’re going to experience bouts of selfishness, shyness, aggressiveness, and tattling. Work with them to solve these issues instead of condemning them for it.

#6 Be an example of what a good friend is to your friends and to your spouse.

God knows the value of friendships. That’s why he put the following verses in the Bible for us to remember. Teach your preschooler to know these verses, too.

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

*And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them*. Luke 6:31

Building Young Disciples,

Pastor Sarah