

## Who are your friends?

*Ps 1:1: Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.*

The message of this verse is that the company we choose to keep, can affect our happiness. The people we choose to hang around with, befriend, work with, or even marry, impact our happiness.

Be warned by God's Word about the kind of company that you keep. Those that you choose to hang around with, even casually, can so easily start you down the wrong path. You see, it is a fact of life that the environment we find ourselves in always has an effect on our life. So, take a hard look at your friends.

Let's say your faith life and prayer life and church attendance are not what God wants it to be. If you hang around with people who do not pray and do not go to church or people who make fun of God, or simply never think about Him, your faith life and prayer life and church attendance cannot improve; in fact, it can only get worse. Bad company will result in us disappointing God even more and as a result we will be less joyful and our lives less meaningful.

Quoting a well-known proverb, the Apostle Paul tells us that "*Bad company corrupts good character*" (1 Cor 15:33). Bad friends result in anything other than blessing and happiness.

Blessed, yes, happy many, many times over, are the those *who walk in the counsel of the holy, who stand in the way of the righteous, who sit in the seat of worshippers.*

Let me also quote from Psalm 119: 63: *I am a friend to all who fear you, to all who follow your precepts.*