

Friendship

Reading from the Word:

This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you (John 15:12-15).

Can two walk together unless they are agreed? (Amos 3:3).

“Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them” (Matthew 7:12).

Everyone may indeed be friendly to another, but he should be most friendly to what is good (*Arcana Coelestia* 4804).

Loving the neighbor does not mean loving his person, but *loving that in him by virtue of which he is a neighbor*—good and truth (*New Jerusalem and the Heavenly Doctrine* 106, emphasis added).

[T]he person who is in charity by means of the truth examines thoroughly and sees what ought to be loved (*Doctrine of Faith* 21).

Possible Questions for Discussion:

Why should we “be most friendly to what is good”?

What makes a person a good friend?

Do you think you are a good friend to people? How could you become a better friend?

Think about your close friends or family. Why are they your friends? What do you have in common?

Reflect on times when your friends have helped you. What are some ways that we can let our friends know that they are important to us?