

Wii | invest & invite – Week 1  
**Levels of Friendship**  
January 31 & February 1, 2009  
Pastor Steve Davidson

**WHAT:** “Our Best Life Is Nurtured in Intentional,  
Healthy Relationships”

**HOW:** “We Must Invest Time to Build Healthy Relationships and  
Invite Our Friends to Join Us in Redemptive Activities .”

**THREE LEVELS OF FRIENDSHIP**

**1. Friends Who Improve Us**

*You use steel to sharpen steel, and one friend sharpens another.*  
Proverbs 27:17 (MSG)

*He who walks with the wise grows wise...*  
Proverbs 13:20a (NIV)

**2. Friends Who Pull Us Down**

*...but a companion of fools suffers harm.*  
Proverbs 13:20b (NIV)

*Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.”*  
1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)

**3. Friends Who Are Status Quo**

*Some friends don't help...*  
Proverbs 18:24a (CEV)

*An unfriendly man pursues selfish ends; he defies all sound judgment.*  
Proverbs 18:1 (NIV)

**CHRIST GAVE TWO RELATIONSHIP MANDATES**

**1. INVEST in Healthy Relationships**

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

*Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.*  
1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NASB)

*Brothers, you were called to be free; do not use your freedom as an opening for self-indulgence, but be servants to one another in love.*  
Galatians 5:13 (NJB)

*Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.*  
Romans 12:10 (NIV)

**2. INVITE Friends to Join Us at Redemptive Events**

*“The wedding is ready, but those who were invited don't deserve the honor. Go... Invite everyone you find to the wedding.”*  
Matthew 22:8-9 (GW)

42 Andrew brought Simon to Jesus...

43 The next day Jesus... found Philip and told him, “Follow me!” ...

45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the [Messiah]... He is Jesus, son of Joseph, from the city of Nazareth.”

46 Nathanael said... “Can anything good come from Nazareth?”  
Philip told him, “Come and see!”  
John 1:42-46 (GW)

*While knowledge may make us feel important, it is love that really builds up the church.*  
1 Corinthians 8:1 (NLT)

*If you love me, you will obey what I command.*  
John 14:15 (NIV)