

## Buddies in Sin - Lesson

**Lesson Summary:** One of the traps the devil tries to use against a graduate are the friends you had when you were living in your addiction.

### **PSALM 1:1-2 (NIV)**

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. <sup>2</sup>But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

### **2 TIMOTHY 2:25-26 (NIV)**

Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, <sup>26</sup>and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, **who has taken them captive to do his will.**

### Lies of the Enemy:

- God wants you to go to the home of your old friends to witness to them.
- You don't want them to think you are stuck up now, so go along with them.
- Reminiscing with them about old times is acceptable because you want them to feel comfortable.
- You have to befriend and hang out with them first, and then witness to them.

### Very Important Truths in correctly dealing with worldly friends:

1. Do NOT go to their house for any reason, even to witness to them. It is like walking into a mine field without a mine sweeper.
  - a) The best advice is to not go to their house at all.
  - b) Even then, the only instance where you should allow yourself to go to their house is if you bring a minesweeper, a friend who has never struggled with any of these kinds of sins, like a pastor.
  - c) Many graduates have fallen back into their addiction by trying to "witness" to their old friends
2. If they call you and want to get together, meet at a restaurant or invite them to church.
  - a) Do not go somewhere private, but to a public place, where they don't serve alcohol.
  - b) Their intention is rarely to cause you to fall back into your addiction, but they are controlled by the devil, who is using them to try to get you to relapse.
3. In your conversations, do not let them start talking about the past and how you used to be and the fun you used to have.
  - a) If they bring it up, say "I'm thankful that God has brought me out of all that."
  - b) Bring up the name of Jesus, saying He has made a change in your life.
  - c) Be bold about what He has done for you, and how Jesus loves them and can help them.
  - d) Let your whole conversation be about what Christ can do for them – in joy
4. Be diligent in developing relationships with Christians in the church.
  - a) You have to work at that, do it consciously, choose your friends, and study the Bible constantly, it will give you the guidance you need.