

Proverbs 27:6

Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

Ok, we get to start off the day saying “ouch” because anytime you have a wound, there is an ouch associated with getting that wound.

But don't we want friends that makes us feel good and make us feel good about ourselves? Yeah, we want to laugh with them and have a good time with them. Or even have them there to cry with us when we are sad or something bad is going on in our lives. But do we choose or hang onto a friend who will cause a wound, or telling us something that causes us to say ouch?

But I think the key is it is a friend, and a friend would only do so, not because they want to hurt you, but because they want you to wake up to reality or address a bad decision you are making.

Think of Jesus and Peter; Peter had an ouch moment but it did not come right away.

✠ **Matthew 26:33-35** *Peter answered and said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble." Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." Peter said to Him, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" And so said all the disciples.*

Jesus was the Apostles teacher, but not just their Teacher but friend as well. In this example, Peter stuck his foot in his mouth by the statement he made, and Jesus corrected Peter, and I believe Jesus said it in love. Even though He did, Peter still argued it with Jesus. If he didn't I don't think Peter would have had that ouch moment, which we will see next, but would had listened and taken Jesus' words to heart. But we know Peter to well, because we are just like him and that ouch moment came the following day.

✠ **Matthew 26:75** *And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly.*

There is Peter's wound and it hurt so much that it caused him to weep bitterly. But not only that, when you get a wound, you have that calloused skin reminding you of how you got that wound, and you avoid getting it again, because of that reminder.

But also notice that the second half of the Psalm was in this scenario as well. *But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.*

I think it's possible satan was whispering in Peter's ear that Jesus was wrong and he would never do anything like that because he was Jesus' friend so don't worry about that. *Peter said to Him, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!"*

Peter felt good about what he said and notice it not only affect Peter, but the other disciples as well; *And so said all the disciples.*

So, one thing I think this parable is telling us is to stop trying to find friends that make us feel good about ourselves, but rather who are honest with us, so that we will be more Christ like and less like ourselves.

† **Proverbs 27:9** *Ointment and perfume delight the heart, And the sweetness of a man's friend gives delight by hearty counsel.*