

Let's Pray...

Help Me Speak the Truth in Love

A friend loveth at all times (Proverbs 17:17a KJV).

Dear Father,

I am troubled about something happening in my friend's life.

I come to You to ask if You want me to talk to her about it, for I am fearful about approaching her, Lord. She is my friend. By speaking to her, I don't want to drive her away or have her think I am condemning her.

Because I care about her and her relationship with You, I want to speak the truth in love, if that is what You direct me to do. Please grant me the courage I need along with the right time and opportunity for us to talk privately. Lord, provide me with the right words to say.

Help her to see that I, like her, am also a sinner. Help me show my love, and remind her of Yours. Lord, as You draw her back to You, bless our friendship that, together, we might praise Your name. Father, in all things, may Your will be done. In Jesus' name. Amen.



Grandma's BLOG

Remember that summer you and your little sister helped me transplant flowers into pots? You both patiently watched as I showed you how to fill each container with soil, dig a hole in the middle, place the tiny seedling inside, and gently pat the dirt around the base of the plant. After watering our flowers in the bright outdoor sunshine, we checked daily to see how God would make them grow.

But how disappointing! After two days, some were wilting. Did the sun dry them out? Perhaps an animal uprooted the tiny plants? Was last night's thunderstorm too overwhelming?

Your little sister cried, as it was only *her* plants which had been affected. Why? She didn't plant them deep enough into the soil. The roots were too shallow to allow the plant to withstand any hardships; they died.

Now, eight years later as an almost-high-school-senior, you are about to move away from home to start your new summer job. My prayer is that you will remain "deeply rooted" in God's Word which was planted in you during years of family devotions, worship, and Lutheran schooling. Through the Holy Spirit working in you, this godly nurturing will enable you to withstand the scorching heat of peer pressure. It will also give you the courage to stand firm in the faith if co-workers try to uproot your Christian values.

As God continues to water your deep roots through daily devotions and prayer, you will be reminded that He is there to comfort and guide you through the overwhelming storms of life. Who knows? Perhaps opportunities will be provided for you to share God's love and plant that seed into the hearts of your new friends!

*Live in Him, rooted and built up in Him,
strengthened in the faith as you were taught* (Colossians 2:6-7).

