



## Friendship

**F**or success, either individually or for your team, there must be a level of friendship. It is a powerful force that comes from mutual esteem, respect and devotion.

It isn't friendship when someone does something nice for you. He or she is simply being a nice person. Friendship is mutual; doing good things for each other. There's no real friendship when only one side is working at it. Both must give for there to be friendship.

Friendship takes time and understanding. Rarely will you find in working toward a common goal that others will be able to resist friendship if you offer it sincerely and openly. However, you may have to prime the pump first. Be brave enough to offer friendship.

Toward the end of the Civil War, reparations were being discussed in the White House. Abraham Lincoln was told by one of his advisors who favored punishing the South, "Mr. President, you're supposed to destroy your enemies, not make friends of them!"

Mr. Lincoln replied, "Am I not destroying an enemy when I make a friend of him?" He understood the tremendous force of friendship. Friendship includes others and adds strength to your foundation.

Taken from  
*Wooden: A Lifetime of Observations & Reflections On and Off the Court*

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