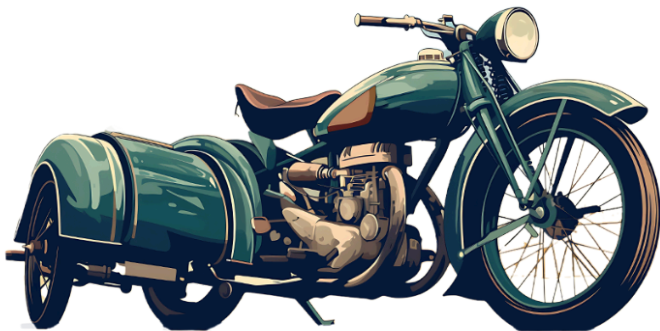




Ride or Die

Week 3 – Sticking Around: The Gift of Loyalty

Loyalty means you are consistently committed to the other person's well-being, even when it is costly, regardless of whether the other person deserves it.



LET'S GET STARTED – The Last Time I . . .

Write a variety of prompts that begin with “The last time I...” on slips of paper. (See examples below for inspiration.) Place the slips in a bag or bowl and let each person draw one at random. Their job is to finish the sentence with a short story about the last time they did what's written on their slip. You'll be surprised at the fun, memorable, and sometimes unexpected stories that come out!

The last time I ...went on a road trip
The last time I ...binge-watched a TV show
The last time I ...got lost (and how I found my way)
The last time I ...tried a new restaurant or café
The last time I ...got caught in the rain without an umbrella
The last time I ...had a good belly laugh
The last time I ...made something from scratch (craft, recipe, project)
The last time I ...sang along to the radio (or in the shower)
The last time I ...was surprised by something or someone
The last time I ...stayed up way too late
The last time I ...did something outside my comfort zone
The last time I ...had an unexpected conversation with a stranger
The last time I ...ate dessert before dinner
The last time I ...was proud of myself for accomplishing something
The last time I ...discovered a new favorite food or drink

VIEW

[Week 3: Sticking Around: The Gift of Loyalty.](#)

VIDEO NOTES

DISCUSS

1. Ride or Die Moments - Have each person share about a time when someone really showed up for them—or they showed up for someone else.

Examples:

A friend who dropped everything to help when your car broke down

Someone who stuck with you during a tough season

A teammate who always had your back



LOYAL FRIENDS

READ ALOUD


Mark 2:1-12

When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home. 2 Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While he was preaching God's word to them, 3 four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat. 4 They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. 5 Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven."

6 But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves, 7 "What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!"

8 Jesus knew immediately what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? 9 Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk'? 10 So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, 11 "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!"

12 And the man jumped up, grabbed his mat, and walked out through the stunned onlookers. They were all amazed and praised God, exclaiming, "We've never seen anything like this before!"



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2. What details stand out to you about the friends' determination in this story?
 3. If you had been in the crowd, how might you have reacted to this disruption?
What does that reveal about how loyalty can sometimes appear "messy" to others?

LOYALTY DEFINED

The way we define loyalty affects the way we display loyalty. Let's explore our working definition:

LOYALTY - consistently committed to the other person's well-being, even when it is costly, regardless of whether the other person deserves it.

CONSISTENTLY COMMITTED TO THE OTHER PERSON'S WELL-BEING

What Elements of Loyalty are Highlighted in the Following Verses?

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 _____

Proverbs 17:17 _____


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4. Loyalty here is described as consistent commitment. In what ways do we sometimes confuse “big heroic moments” with everyday loyalty? How might we miss opportunities for loyalty if we’re only waiting for ‘big’ moments instead of daily consistency?
 5. Think of a friendship you admire. What habits or rhythms helped build trust and show consistent care?

EVEN WHEN IT’S COSTLY

READ ALOUD

Philippians 2:4

4 Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

6. This verse points us to look to the interest of others in our daily lives. In your experience, what are the most common “costs” of loyalty today—time, money, emotional energy, social risk? Which one is hardest for you to give?
 7. Can you recall a moment when someone’s loyalty to you cost them something? How did that deepen your relationship with them?
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REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE OTHER PERSON DESERVES IT

8. Why do you think we find it so difficult to be loyal when someone hasn't "earned" it?

READ ALOUD

Romans 5:6-8

6 When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. 7 Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. 8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

9. How does Jesus' loyalty to us (even when we didn't deserve it) reshape the way we think about loyalty in friendships, marriages, or family relationships?
10. What's the difference between loyalty and enabling? How can we show grace without staying in harmful or destructive relationships?
11. Where might God be nudging you to extend loyalty, not because it's deserved, but because it reflects Jesus?
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LOYALTY - consistently committed to the other person's well-being, even when it is costly, regardless of whether the other person deserves it.

That's how Jesus loves us, and when we live this out, our friendships and families become a powerful picture of God's love to the world.

APPLY IT

Choose one person you will intentionally show loyalty to this week, especially if it costs you something.

