



## Introduction

When we look back on our childhoods, it doesn't take long to start remembering and reminiscing about our friendships. These unique individuals became our confidants, advisors, allies, and maybe even enablers at times. Knowing the value and impact they had on who we are now, we want the kids in our lives to have meaningful friendships, too. To help, Pastor Jesse provides us with a few practical ways to help the kids in our lives make friends in week three of our *How Do I Help My Kids* series.

## Discussion

1. Think back to your own childhood. What was it like making friends growing up? Did you ever sense pressure or expectations from your parents when it came to making friends? How did these experiences determine the types of friends you made?
2. How might you project the experience you just identified onto the lives of your kids? Why is that? And what might that risk?
3. The reality in the digital age is our kids will have real, digital relationships. But the risk is if we don't coach them on how to build healthy relationships and apply it to their screens, their screens will do it for them. What are some practical ways you can begin monitoring and coaching your kid's digital relationships?
4. **Revisit 1 Corinthians 12:24-26.** God designed His church to be a community of friends that acts like family, one where you and your kids can be known, accepted, challenged, and grow. Does this sound like an attractive picture for you and your kid? Why or why not? How can you start connecting your family to PLC's church family?

## Take Action

1. **Be a student of your child.** Take time to learn and discover the unique way God has wired them. Remind your kid at least once a day how those unique traits are good gifts.
2. **Screen time isn't break time.** Remember when your kid's on a device, it's an opportunity to monitor and engage with their digital relationships. Watch what they do, ask curious questions, and talk about healthy ways to build friendships.
3. **Introduce a competing influence.** If you find your kid's friends aren't a good influence, connect with a PLC staff member about how you could start connecting them to their church family in a way that meets them where they are.

## Resources

[PLC's Parenting Resources Page](#)