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**The Way Of Wisdom**  
"Healthy Friends"  
Proverbs 20:6

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Introduction: We are working our way through Proverbs, a book that addresses the practical realities of our lives.

1. We've covered a lot of ground:

- Overcoming Temptation
- Trusting God
- Financial Wisdom
- Guarding Our Hearts
- Dealing With Criticism
- Learning To Listen
- Using Words Wisely

2. Today we will focus on relationships.

3. Healthy Relationships make our lives so much sweeter.

4. Unfortunately, relationships are becoming more of a challenge in our modern world.

- Loneliness On The Rise
- Relational Skill In Decline

5. In light of this reality, let's look to Solomon to understand the kind of friends we should be and look for.

I. The Characteristics Of A Good Friend

A. Commitment

B. Authenticity

C. Stability

II. The Skills Of A Good Friend

A. Discretion

B. Honesty

C. Encouragement

Conclusion: There is much more to understand about healthy relationships.

1. This is a starting point.
2. We were not designed to be "lone rangers."
3. It is still not good to be alone.
4. Healthy relationships make us better.
5. Therefore, let's work at being better friends and develop more healthy relationships.