

# Discussion Ideas



Choose strategies from the list below to facilitate group discussion.

## Connecting Activity

Ask each person to share one thing that has happened in the past few days that has brought a smile to their face. Point out themes of kindness and friendship in the answers.

## Discussion Questions

1. Why did Pendo lie to Riziki and Malaika?
  - *She was jealous of their friendship.*
2. Why do you think Riziki believed Pendo's lies? What might Riziki have done instead?
  - *Insecurity; may have felt like Malaika didn't want to go; she could have asked Malaika directly.*
3. Define "kindness". Give some specific examples of kindness from the story.
  - *Acting out of concern and thoughtfulness for others; Malaika helps Riziki; Malaika and Riziki forgive; Grandma listens and helps.*
4. ► How does a true friend respond to a disagreement or misunderstanding?
  - *With love; asks for forgiveness; talks about it; forgives.*
5. ► Think of a time when you apologized for something you did (or didn't) do. How did you feel before you apologized? How did you feel afterwards?
  - *May have felt nervous or afraid before and much better, or free, after.*
6. ► Think of a good friend or someone close to you. How can you show your love to this person this week?
  - *Be practical and specific in your answer. Encourage, help, spend time with, work on a project together, etc.*

## Personal Growth Activity

Write a note to a good friend telling him or her why they are important to you and what you value in your relationship.

## **☞ Spiritual Application**

Read I Corinthians 13:4-7. Then ask: What does love look like according to these verses? Give specific examples. What do these verses tell you about how God loves you?

## **☞ Prayer Point**

Lead the group in a prayer asking God for courage to admit when they are wrong and ask for forgiveness. Pray that group members would grow in their love for God and for others.

## **☞ Encouragement**

Remind the group that even the best of friends can make mistakes and have disagreements. Encourage them to hold on to a good friend with both hands. Consider reading part of Grandma's Wisdom to close the group time.

### **Grandma's Wisdom**

Love does not keep records of when it has been wronged. When Riziki asked Malaika to forgive her, she did, and that was the end of it. Riziki also learnt about humility. Have you ever done something you should not have done to someone, and had to say you were sorry? It is not easy, is it? It is never easy to humble ourselves and admit it when we were wrong. But it's necessary if we want to build healthy and strong relationships. It takes courage to admit when we are wrong; it also takes courage to forgive. If you practice love with the people around you, you will find many people to befriend. And remember, once you find good friends, hold on to them.

