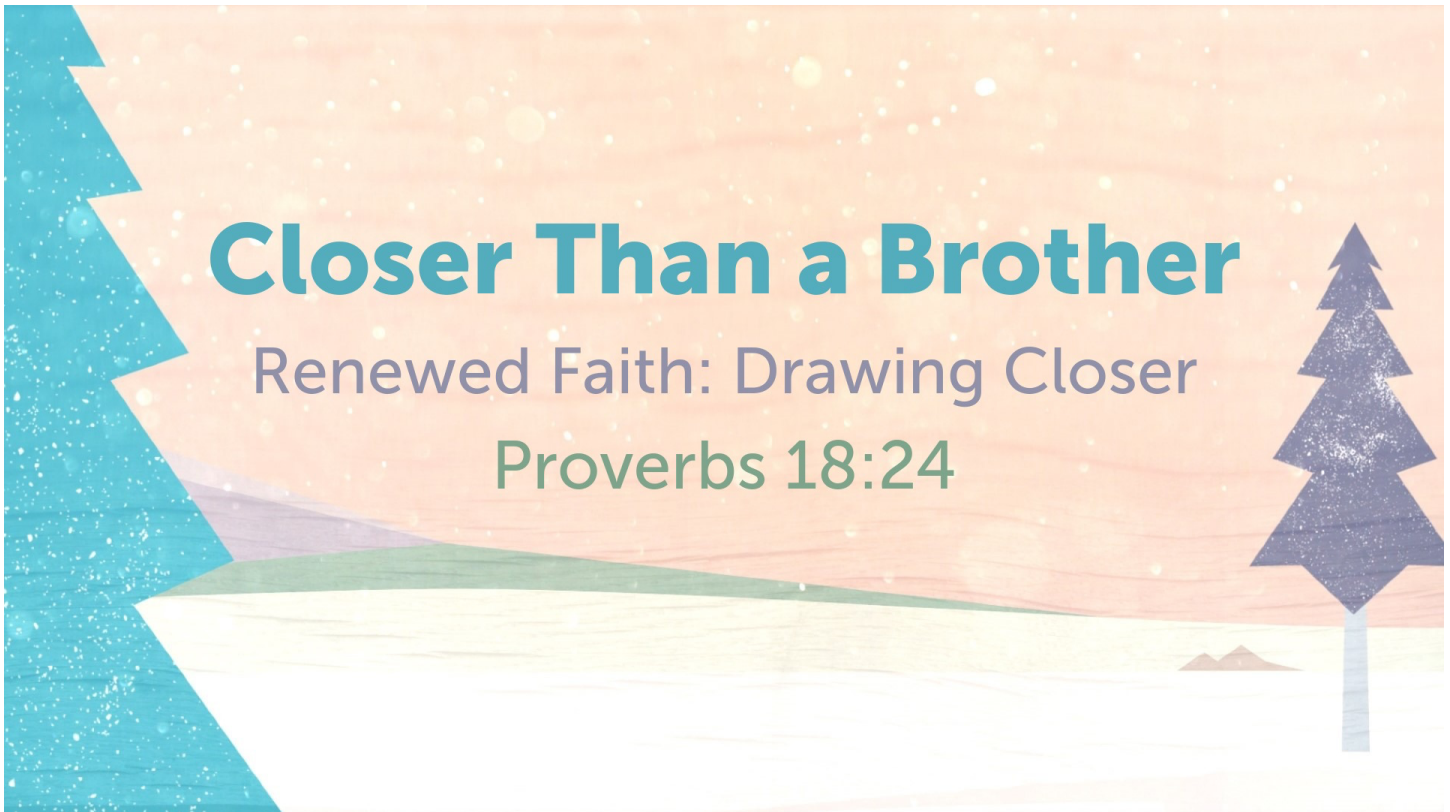


Closer Than a Brother

Barry G. Johnson, Sr. / www.BarrysBureau.com

Renewed Faith: Drawing Closer / A Brother; Faith; Renew / Proverbs 18:24

To overcome the world with all its natural disadvantages, we must make sure that Jesus is closer than a brother.



Proverbs 18:24 ESV

²⁴ A man of many companions may come to ruin,

but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Natural Disadvantages

Romans 8:13 ESV

¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

1 Corinthians 15:33 ESV

³³ Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.”

Our Closet Relationship

James 4:4 ESV

⁴ You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

2 Corinthians 6:14–18 ESV

¹⁴ Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? ¹⁵ What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

“I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them,
and I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

¹⁷ Therefore go out from their midst,
and be separate from them, says the Lord,
and touch no unclean thing;
then I will welcome you,

¹⁸ and I will be a father to you,
and you shall be sons and daughters to me,
says the Lord Almighty.”

Our Relationship with Him

John 15:14–15 ESV

¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

1 Peter 3:18 ESV

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,