**The Imitation of Christ by Thomas A. Kempis**

**Book One:** Thoughts helpful in the life of the soul

**Chapter 8:** Shunning Over-Familiarity

**Definition and Scriptures:**

**Virtuous:** Virtue has been defined as “conformity of life and conduct with the principles of morality.” ... According to Christian teaching, the theological virtues do not originate from the natural man. They are imparted by God through Christ and are then practiced by the believer.  
[(britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com))

**Virtuous:** 1. Morally good; acting in conformity to the moral law; practicing the moral duties, and abstaining from vice; as a virtuous man. 2. Being in conformity to the moral or divine law; as a virtuous action; a virtuous life. (kjv-dictionary)

**Philippians 4:8**

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

**1 Chronicles 29:17**

Since I know, O my God, that You try the heart and delight in uprightness, I, in the integrity of my heart, have willingly offered all these things; so now with joy I have seen Your people, who are present here, make their offerings willingly to You.

**2 Peter 1:5**

Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge,

**Quote:**

“Associate with the humble and the simple, with the devout and virtuous, and with them speak of edifying things. Be not intimate with any woman, but generally commend all good women to God.”

**Discussion:**

Why did God say in Genesis 2:18, “It’s not good for man to be alone.”?

What is the difference between a colleague and a spouse?