

Use “The Scene” to introduce “An Ideal Friendship” the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for March 18, 2018. The lesson is found on page 17 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

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Sometimes we find friends in the strangest places. And sometimes perfect strangers become life-changing friends.

In Atlanta, single mother Ebony Rhodes was at her wit's end. She had been working two jobs to try to make ends meet, but a medical condition caused her to miss work. Then her car got impounded during a routine traffic stop, when she was found to have an expired license and no insurance.

That would have been bad enough. But Ebony's old car just happened to also be home for her and her four kids.

When Deputy Police Chief Jeff Glazier heard about Ebony and her family, he felt the urge to do something—something beyond the call of duty. He helped Ebony find a place in a shelter, and then went a step further and helped her get an apartment of her own. Now he visits Ebony and the kids regularly and is considered a family friend. Certainly those kids are getting to see what true friends do for one another.

*As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the article. Then discuss in this way:*

**What do you think about this story?**

**One quality of a good friend is caring for others. What are some other qualities of good friends?**

**Probably under normal circumstances, the police officer and the single mother would not have become such good friends. What kinds of things can keep us from making friends with people? Have you ever become friends with someone outside of your normal social groups? What happened?**

**Today we're going to look at the importance of friendships. We will discover three important qualities friends should have, as we look at the friendship of David and Jonathan.**