Baucis and Philemon, an old couple from the land of Phrygia, showed hospitality toward the gods and were rewarded. According to Greek myth, the gods Zeus* and Hermes* assumed human form and visited earth disguised as poor travelers. When they reached Phrygia, they looked for shelter but were turned away by everyone except Philemon and his wife, Baucis.

The old couple gladly shared their small amount of food and wine with the strangers. Baucis and Philemon realized that their guests were gods after noticing that the wine jug never ran out and that their poor wine was replaced by wine of the finest quality. Zeus and Hermes led the couple to a hill above Phrygia and sent a flood to destroy the land to punish the people who had turned them away. Only the old couple's house remained undamaged. Zeus made the house a temple to the gods and awarded Baucis and Philemon two wishes: to serve as priest and priestess of the temple and, when the time came, to die together. Many years later, when the moment of their deaths came, Baucis and Philemon were transformed into trees with intertwined branches.

Baucis and Philemon - Full version

Friendship Myth Choice Worksheet

Life Principle Choice Worksheet

Baucis and Philemon myth with audio and activity

Baucis and Philemon myth and activities

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Step 1: Question Focus: “Friendship”

**Question Focus Technique Instructions**

Step 2: Produce Questions.

Rules for producing questions:
1. Ask as many questions as you can.
2. Change any statements into questions.
3. Write down every question exactly as stated.
4. Do not stop to discuss, judge, or answer the questions.

Step 3: Improve the Questions.

1) Identify open and closed-ended questions.
2) Change questions: select one question to change from open to closed-ended and one closed question to open-ended.

Example: *Closed to open*

What are two ways Baucis and Philemon showed hospitality?

What effect did Baucis and Philemon’s hospitality have?
### Step 4: Prioritize questions. Identify 2-3 that are the most important. Be able to share a rationale for your choices.

**Critical Thinking Questions:**

1. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

2. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

3. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

### Step 5: Determine how questions are going to be used:

(Evidence of Learning)

- i.e. research project, real life application,
- assessment creation, discussion, written report,
- visual representation, oral presentation, etc.

[Mythweb](#) - website with a variety of resources for teaching myths.

[Tips for Teachers for Myths](#) Suggestions for activities in the classroom

[More Teaching Tips for Myths](#) More Suggestions for activities in the classroom

### Step 6: Reflection

What do the characteristics of friendship look like for me?

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