

You've Got a Friend in Me! - Gospel of John Series 15c

3.22.26

John 15:12-16

12 This is My commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. 13 There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are My friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are My friends, since I have told you everything the Father told Me. 16 You didn't choose Me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using My name.

***See Bible verses about what makes for good friendships: Prov. 18:24, Prov. 27:10, Prov. 27:9, 17**

What kind of friend to Jesus are you?

John 15:14

You are My friends if you do what I command. *See Matt. 12:50

The Bible called Abraham a friend of God. Why? *See Gen. 12:1-3, James 2:23

And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." He was even called the friend of God. James 2:23

John 15:15

I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are My friends, since I have told you everything the Father told Me. *See also, Matt. 13:11, John 2:19-22

"...Morning by morning He wakens me and opens my understanding to His will." Isa. 50:4b

Why does Jesus confide in us who are His friends?

The Bible called Moses a friend of God: Why? *Inside the Tent of Meeting, the Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Exo. 33:11a*

No one knows us better than our Friend, Jesus!

Psalm 139:1-6

1 O Lord, You have examined my heart and know everything about me. 2 You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. 3 You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. 4 You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord. 5 You go before me and follow me. You place Your hand of blessing on my head. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand!

Psalm 139:13-17

13 You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 Thank You for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. 15 You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. 16 You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in Your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. 17 How precious are Your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!

John 15:16

You didn't choose Me. I chose you. ...

What does that mean, Jesus chose us? *“For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of His Son while we were still His enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of His Son. Rom 5:10*

John 15:13

There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.

John 15:16

You didn't choose Me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using My name.

Application:

Ephesians 1:7-14

7 He is so rich in kindness and grace that He purchased our freedom with the blood of His Son and forgave our sins. 8 He has showered His kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding. 9 God has now revealed to us His mysterious will regarding Christ—which is to fulfill His own good plan. 10 And this is the plan: At the right time He will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth. 11 Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for He chose us in advance, and He makes everything work out according to His plan.

12 God's purpose was that we Jews who were the first to trust in Christ would bring praise and glory to God. 13 And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, He identified you as His own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom He promised long ago. 14 The Spirit is God's guarantee that He will give us the inheritance He promised and that He has purchased us to be His own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify Him.

How do you become Jesus' friend?

What is Jesus' promise to His friends?

Why would we want to be Jesus' friend?