

Your Friend Jesus!

“You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: Love each other.” Jn. 15:14-17

“The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant.” Ps. 25:14

“Faithful are the wounds of a friend.” Prov. 27:6

1. Our identity as friends of Jesus: Why is it important for us to know our identity? An identity describes who you actually are. Knowing who you are enables you to be who you are to be, and do what you are designed to do. Identity and destiny are inseparable. Naming something gives it identity. God named us. Then He gave us authority to name the animals. You are a “son of God”. You are also a friend of God. Jesus calls you his friend. That identity is a present reality. You are already His friend. Problem is that the devil (slanderer) has lied to you about who you are, so you have bought into a lesser identity and therefore, lived a lesser life. We are trying to come up into our identity as “friends” of Jesus, so we can also fulfill our destinies.
2. Jesus gave up everything and died on the cross so that he could be your friend! Jesus was a friend to you and all “sinners” BEFORE you/they responded to his invitation of friendship. John 15:3; Matt. 11:19; Ro. 5:8
3. The stature, the centrality, the supremacy of your Friend – Jesus: Who is this Person who has called you His friend? Jesus has placed himself into every cell of your body. Jesus is in your DNA. All things were made by Him, through Him, and for Him. You exist for Jesus. The more you come into unity around why you exist, the more you will radiate the Life of heaven. Ro. 11:36 “For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever!” Your entire well-being, happiness, fullness of life comes directly from intimate friendship with Jesus. You were never meant to function apart from intimate friendship with God. The more you get into Christ, the more alive you become.
4. Jesus never imposes His friendship on you or anyone else. Jesus gives you 100% freedom whether you will reciprocate friendship.
5. Jesus is forever building a bridge of intimacy with you through his kindness, mercy, and love. He is always pursuing you...one way or another.
6. Jesus, your friend, will tell you the truth for your own good.
7. Jesus will even allow you to be wounded, experience pain, for your own good. Divine correction hurts, but only for a moment in light of eternity. Heb. 12:11; Hosea 6:1-2; Jer. 30:11-24
8. Jesus tells his secrets to his friends. Matt. 13:11; Rev. 19:10
9. The sign that you are walking in friendship with Jesus is that you say “yes” from your heart...and you do “yes” (obey) out of love. Jn. 15:14
10. Completely separate yourself from “friendship with the world”. James 4:4. It is ripping off your friendship with God.
11. The benefits of friendship with Jesus are priceless. Luke 18:18-30
12. Jesus has been inviting you into a “best friend” status with Him. He wants to come inside of you for unbroken communion. Rev. 3:20 The level of friendship you have with Jesus is entirely up to you.