

You Are a Friend
John 15:9-17

Main Point:

Live as the friend Jesus died to make you with Him and others.

1. In Christ, you are a friend of God.

2. In Christ, you are a friend of other believers.

3. Live as the friend Jesus died to make you with Him and others.

James 2:23 23 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God. (NKJV)

Romans 5:8 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (NKJV)

J.C. Ryle "This is indeed a glorious privilege. To know Christ, serve Christ, follow Christ, obey Christ, work in Christ's vineyard, fight Christ's battles, all this is no small matter. But for sinful men and women like ourselves to be called 'friends of Christ,' is something that our weak minds can hardly grasp and take in."

Psalm 119:63 63 I *am* a companion of all who fear You, And of those who keep Your precepts. (NKJV)

Psalm 122:8-9 8 For the sake of my brethren and companions, I will now say, "Peace *be* within you." 9 Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek your good. (NKJV)

James 4:4 4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. (NKJV)

Richard Phillips "The Bible is not only the holy book for us to revere, but also Jesus' disclosure of his own heart for us to treasure as his friends."

J.C. Ryle "Let the expression before us encourage Christians to deal familiarly with Christ in prayer ... Let it cheer us in all the troubles and sorrows of life ..."

Proverbs 18:24 24 A man *who has* friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend *who* sticks closer than a brother. (NKJV)

J.C. Ryle "None so rich, so strong, so independent, so well off, so thoroughly provided for, as the man of whom Christ says, 'This is my friend!'"

Matthew Henry "Though they often show themselves unfriendly, he is a friend that loves at all times."