

Part 5

Experiencing Friendship with Christ

Message notes:

The "if" in verse 14 is not the qualifier; it is a _____ that we are His friends.

God doesn't define us by what we were outside of Jesus; He defines us by who we are in _____.

Jesus is a friend that gives us His secrets—He _____ us.

As a friend, Jesus doesn't treat us like He's _____ us.

You can't call yourself a _____ of Jesus if your disloyal, disrespectful, or dishonest.

At some point, your friends on earth will let you down. Jesus will _____ let you down.

Jesus is a friend that is _____ than any other friend.

ABIDE is a call to _____.

Additional notes:

John 15:11-15

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 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. 16 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.

Proverbs 18:24

A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Discussion Questions:

What does it mean to you to know that God sees you as a friend, not just a servant?

How does doing what Jesus commands confirm that we are His friends?

What changes in your life when you begin to define yourself by who you are in Jesus instead of who you were outside of Jesus?

What did Pastor Jamie mean when he spoke about Jesus choosing to be our friend instead of only parenting us?

Do you have an abiding relationship where He'd say, "Hey, how about dinner and a movie?" What needs to change in your life so that you could have this type of relationship?

How does knowing that Jesus chose you to be His friend affect the way that you live?

How does abiding in Jesus create more joy in your life?

Ministry Time Questions:

Is anyone struggling with feeling close to Jesus as a friend?

Does anyone have unresolved pain or bitterness from friends who have let you down?