



The God I Wish You Knew - November 22, 2015 - *The God That Is Your Friend*

Introduction

Many times we think that we have to do something to get God to be our friend but the truth is, God is the one who has initiated the friendship. Through Jesus, He has sent of friend request to anyone willing to confirm His request and become His friend.

Discussion Questions

1. Who has been your best friend in life? What did this person do that made you realize they were truly your best friend?
2. Has there ever been someone in your life that you thought to be a good friend but you discovered they truly were not your friend? What happened and how did it make you feel? On these same lines, have you let someone down that thought you were their good friend? What happened and how did this make you feel?
3. In the message Jon said: "A friend is someone who has proven their love for us and their value of us." How does this statement resonate with you? Please explain.
4. Read [John chapter 15](#). In [verse 13](#), what does Jesus say is the greatest test of friendship? In [verse 14](#), what does Jesus say validates our part of the friendship with Him? In [verse 15 and 16](#), who does Jesus say initiates the friendship between He and us?
5. Read [Romans chapter 5](#). In [verses 6-8](#), what did God say He did to initiate and validate His friendship towards us? In [verse 15](#) how much did it cost us to be invited into this friendship with God?
6. Read [Romans 10:1-13](#). What does it say in [verse 9 and 10](#) is required of anyone who wishes to accept the friendship request God has made available to everyone?
7. Read [James 4:1-12](#). What does God say in [verse 4](#) happens when we choose to be friends with the world (the sinful and selfish will and ways of mankind) instead of Him? In [verse 7 and 8](#), what does God say he will do if we choose to resist friendship with the world and draw close to a friendship with Him?

Moving Forward

The God I wish you knew today is the God that has proven His love for you and has proven the value He has placed on you. God knows your deepest darkest secret. God knows you at your lowest point in life. God knows you at your worst. Yet in all of that, He is still here saying; I am your friend, let me prove it to you, just look to My cross. God has already taken the initiative and proven His love and the value He places on you. He has sent you a personal friend request, so the question is not: will God be your friend? The question is: will you be a friend of God? You can confirm God's friend request today by believing in Jesus as the only way, the only truth, and the only life. Once you make this initial decision to do your part in answering "yes" to God's friend request, going forward each time you seek God first in your actions and attitudes; you validate your friendship towards Him. Are you God's friend today? Are you a good friend towards God? After all He has done to initiate a friendship with you, what could keep you from being a good friend towards Him? Make a commitment right now to begin seeking Him and His will and way first in all that you are and do, and enter into the joy of an abiding relationship with Creator God today.

Changing Your Mind - Commit this to memory

For while we were still weak, at the right time Jesus Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person (though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die) but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Jesus Christ died for us. [Romans 5:6-8](#) (ESV)