

There are so many qualities a friend, a good friend would have.

A good friend would be:

- Loyal
- Understanding
- Truthful
- Caring
- Lasting

We are speaking about Jesus and last week we saw Him as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Today,

We will see Him as not just a friend or even a good friend but the Best Friend.

And,

He is more than

- Loyal
- Understanding
- Truthful
- Caring
- Lasting

One man said;

"A friend is one of the greatest blessings on earth."

He said;

"Tell me not of money, affection is better than gold; sympathy is better than lands.

He is the poor man who has no friends."

Friendship cut our troubles in half and doubles our joys.

Pr 18:24 I want to show you two words for a friend in the Hebrew.

A man of too many friends comes to ruin, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

"friends" *rea* – associate, neighbor, companion

"friend" *ahab* – to love, affection

I want to show you that you can have a best friend in Jesus but I'm going to do it by asking you questions:

1. Do you want a friend in need?

We are the neediest creatures on earth because of sin. Sin is the disease that afflicts all of mankind.



JESUS

We can treat hunger, thirst, sickness and poverty but we cannot treat sin.

The remedy for sin is pardon and that is something we cannot do for ourselves.

I Tim 1:15 It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.

Sin leads to death but Jesus, as a Friend in Need, abolished death for us.

Our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, II Tim 1:10

That is a Caring Friend.

2. Do you want a friend indeed?

Such a friend is the Lord Jesus.

The true extent of a man's friendship is measured by his deeds.

Not what he says or feels, but by what he does!

Jesus did not love us in word only but also in deed.

Sure,

He gave us the Bible but He also gave us His life.

Phi 2:6 *although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,*

v.7 *but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.*

v.8 *Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

Yes, we have martyrs:

Rom 5:7 or one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die.

But wait!

v.8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Jesus is a loyal friend.

1. Do you want a friend in need?

2. Do you want a friend in deed?

3. Do you want a mighty and powerful friend? Such is the Lord Jesus.

JESUS

We all have good intentions to help someone when we can but in many cases we are powerless to do so.
We can pray, we can give, we can help, but we cannot change it. We cannot relieve them of their pain.
Our sorrow for them is of no effect.
We are weak but Christ is strong.

Jesus said to His disciples in;
Mt 28:18 *All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.*
He is the:

- Creator
- Father of Science
- Sustainer

Col 1:16 *For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.*
V.17 *He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.*

He can make you into a new creation.

II Cor 5:17

Forgiveness of sins through His blood Mt 26:28

Eternal life Jn 10:28

He has taken care of our greatest affliction
He is mighty in deed and understands our condition.

4. Do want a truthful friend? Such is the Lord Jesus.

People often lead one another to destruction down the road of Sentimentality.

Destruction is the town and Sentimentality is the road.

By not being totally honest, they try to save their friendship but they are actually betraying it.

Pr 27:6 *Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.*

“wounds” words of truth that sting

Jesus never brings sentimental wisdom but He does give grace with truth.

Jn 1:17 *For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.*

He doesn't candy coat His message.

- Pick up your cross
- Deny yourself

JESUS

- Don't look back
- Love Me before your own family

But He also said t believe in Me and be saved.

He is a truthful friend and is also supported by His loyalty.

5. Do you want a lasting friend? The Lord Jesus is that friend.

In the human realm of mankind, there is often failure and betrayal.

Our:

- Friends betray us
- Healthy betrays us
- Wealth betrays us
- Spouses betray one another
- Governments betray their people

If you want a friend that will never betray you, then you need Jesus Christ.

He is not moody, nor conditional in His friendship.

Heb 13:8 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*

He is always there and never not there.

Unlike people who don't answer the phone (if you know what I mean)
v.5 *for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,"*

There is no friend like the Lord Jesus and this makes Him the Best Friend.

Remember:

If you want Him, He is a:

1. Friend in need
2. Friend in deed
3. Friend of power
4. Truthful friend
5. Lasting friend and He seeks your friendship

NEXT TIME "The Day Of Judgment"