

God My Friend

Introduction

- We often think about David as the friend of God and how we can emulate him
 - The Heart of David (08/15 – 10/10/04) 9
 - He Deserves Better Than That! (12/21/05) 1
 - David or Joab (04/19/06) 2
 - Is There Not a Cause (05/07/06 & 01/04/15) 2
 - Exceeding Magnificent (01/13/08)
 - David or Saul [men's meeting slides] (05/28/14) 23
 - Psalm 101 (08/05/15) 45
 - Psalm 18 (11/15/15) 9
- The idea for this message came from reviewing the sermon series Knowing God (2012-2013).
 - In particular, considering the category of God's relational attributes which is something unknown in theological writings but very precious for a child of God to consider.
 - We often talk of God as our Father, and our familial relationship with Him.
 - But we don't often consider the ramifications of God as OUR Friend.
 - With a family relationship, certain things such as love & consideration are expected, because of the blood tie.
 - But friendship is different.
 - Friendship is a choice to love another that is not necessarily connected to you by blood ties.
- Let us marvel, rejoice and receive comfort from the Lord's choice to befriend us!

A friend:

Is Transparent – He Communicates with his friend

- 1 Ex 33:11 The Lord spoke face to face w/ Moses – intimate communication Deu 34:10
- 2 Jos 1:1-9 The Lord's encouragement to Joshua
 - a. vs. 2 Moses is gone – YOU, Joshua, are in charge
 - b. vs. 3-4 The LORD reaffirms the promise made to Moses
 - c. vs. 6-7 He exhorts Joshua to be strong to do the task
 - d. vs. 5 & 9 Jehovah personally exhorts / encourages Joshua
- 3 1Jn 1:8-9 He provides the basis for continual fellowship with Him - repentance

Shares his plans with & takes counsel of his friend

Gen 18:17-22 The Lord shared His plans with His friend Abraham

- 1 He shared His concerns and plans with Abraham
- 2 He was moved & influenced by Abraham's pleas

Jn 15:15 Jesus called His apostles friends as He shared with them God's plans

Commiserates with his friend

- 1 Isa 63:7-9 The Lord is afflicted with our afflictions
- 2 Heb 4:15 Jesus is touched with the feelings of our infirmities

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Does not forget his friend's activities

Heb 6:10 The Lord does not forget our labor of love toward His saints

Makes special arrangements for his friend

- 1 Ps 34:7 The Lord sends His angels to watch over His friends
- 2 Mal 3:16-17 The Lord writes a book of remembrance for them that fear Him and talk about Him
- 3 Rev 13:8 17:8 The Lord wrote our names down from eternity in the Book of Life

Overlooks the faults in his friend

- 1 Abraham
 - a. Gen 17:15-22 Abraham laughed when first told Sarah would have a child
 - b. Rom 4:17-21 The Lord says of Abraham through Paul he was "not weak in faith" "staggered not at the promise"
- 2 Ps 106:43-45 Even with Israel's provocations, the Lord delivered them many times
- 3 Jer 31:20 The Lord's bowels are troubled for Israel
- 4 Hos 11:8-9 The Lord would not execute the fierceness of His wrath

Wants to be near his friend

- 1 1Jn 1:3 John wrote an epistle so we could have fellowship with him & the Lord
- 2 Jn 14:1-3 Jesus went to prepare a place to be with His friends
- 3 Jn 14:23 Jesus said He & the Father make Their abode with men that love Him

Delights in his friend

Ps 18:19 The Lord delighted in His friend David

Is loyal, steadfast in support of his friend

- 1 Jos 1:5, 9 The Lord with Joshua
- 2 Jer 31:3 The Lord's love everlasting
- 3 Heb 13:5 He will never forsake us
- 4 Ps 27:10 He remains loyal when even family forsakes us
- 5 Pro 17:17 He is the friend that loves at all time
- 6 Pro 18:24 He is the friend that sticks with you closer than a brother

Has special communications with his friend to encourage him & express his love to him

- 1 Consider how much better we have it than David did – the Pentateuch, Joshua, Job likely all he had
- 2 Job 23:12 The Lord's words better than our necessary physical sustenance
- 3 Ps 94:19 In the midst of a world of conflict, the Lord's comforts delight His friend's soul
- 4 Ps 119:24 The Lord's testimonies are His friend's delight & counsellors
- 5 Rom 15:4 Patience & comfort of the Scriptures to give hope
- 6 John 17:3 Eternal life is for knowing the Lord and Jesus
- 7 1John 1:3-4 John wrote to provide fellowship & full joy Jn 15:10-15