

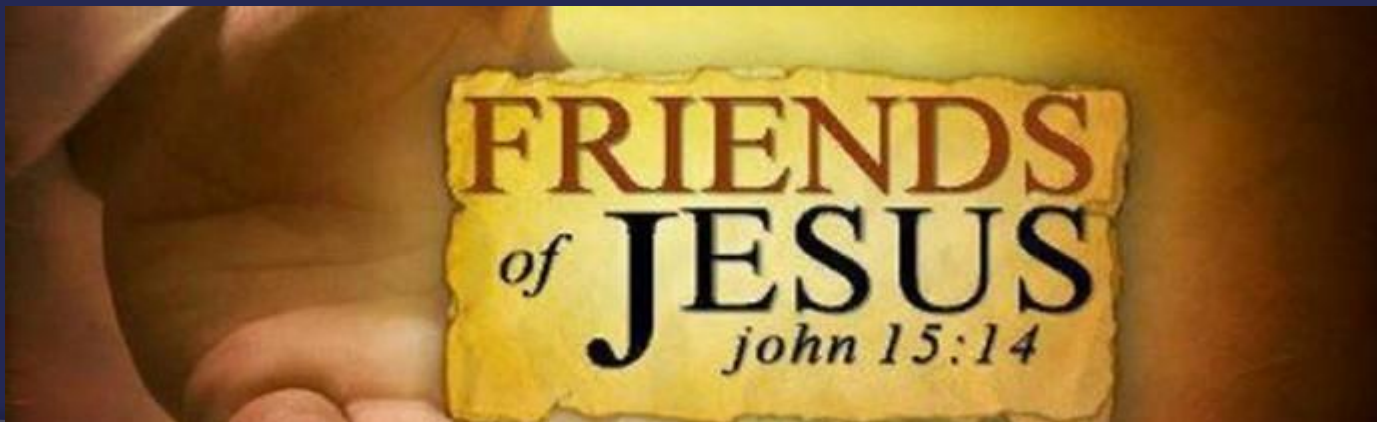


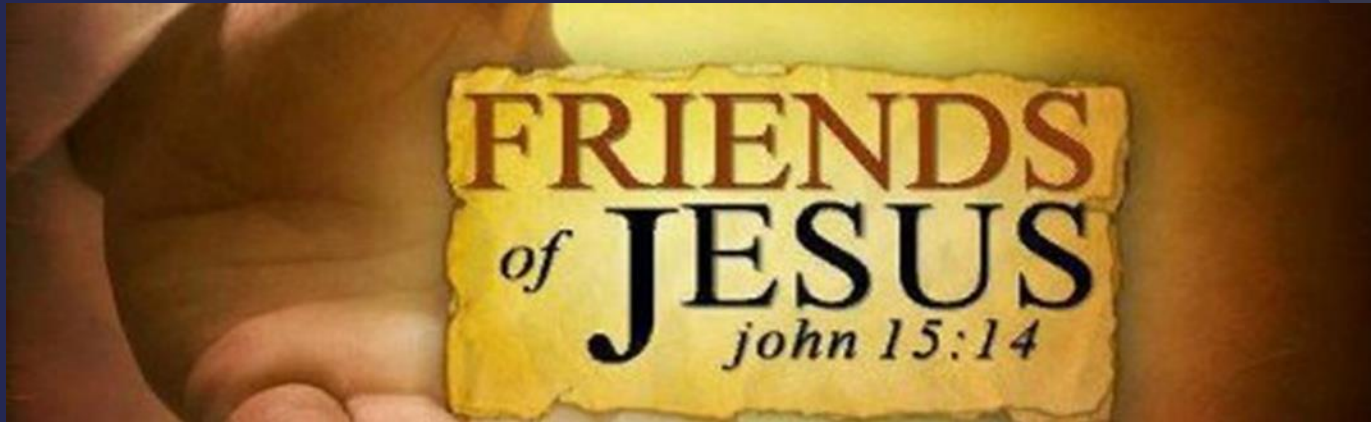
FRIENDS  
*of* JESUS  
*john 15:14*

## THE SINNER'S FRIEND

John 15:9 -17

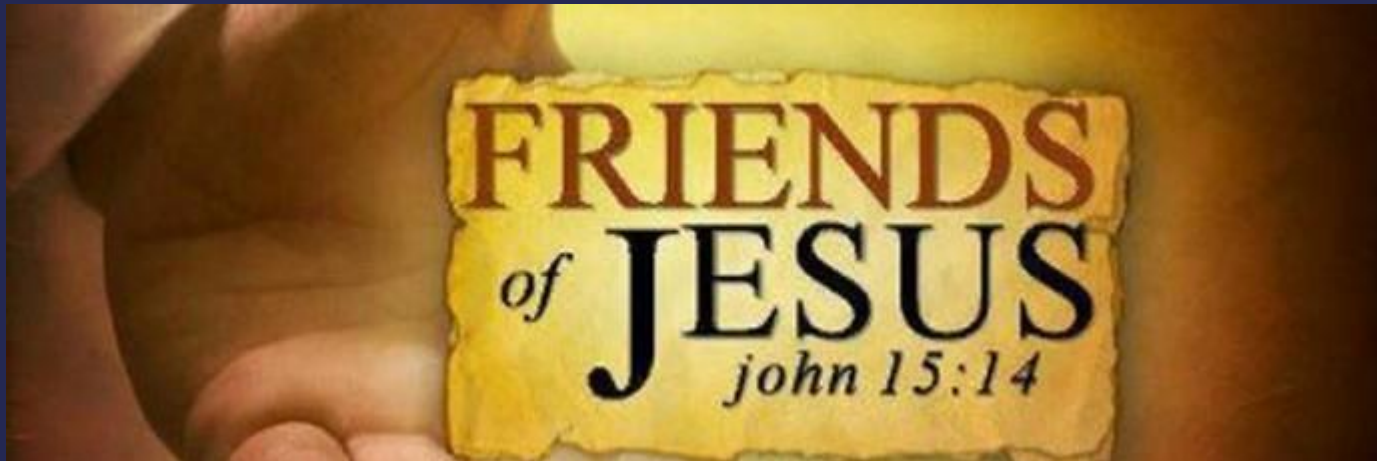
- ◉ Webster's defines "*friend*" as "*a favoured companion*."
- ◉ His name is Jesus and I do not call Him my Friend, but He calls me His

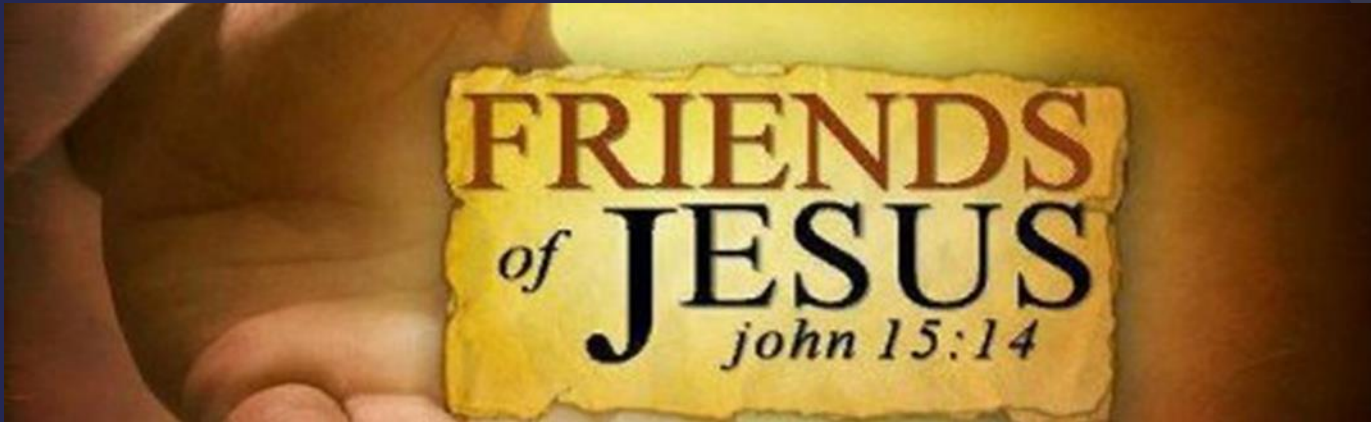




- Several places where God and Jesus referred to certain people as their friends.
- God spoke to Moses as a man speaks to his friend, **Ex. 33:11**.
- Abraham is called the friend of God, **2 Chr. 20:7, James 2:23**.
- Abraham's seed, the faithful of Israel, are called the friends of God, **Isa. 41:8**.
- In the New Testament - Lazarus is called a friend by Jesus, **John 11:11**.
- In our text, the disciples are called Christ's friends John 15

- The charges His enemies made against Jesus was that He was a “*friend of publicans and sinners*”, Matt. 11:19.
- In Matt. 26:50. Judas is leading an army to arrest Jesus and the Lord calls this Judas “*friend*”.

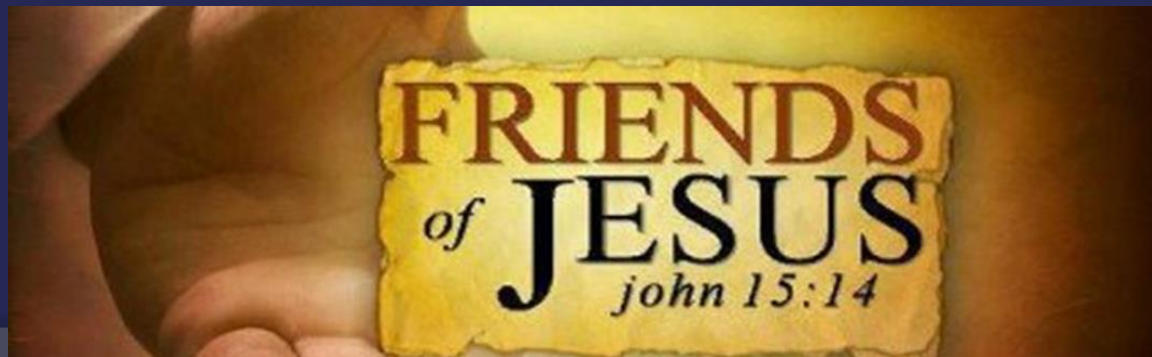




- **HIS INTIMACY IN OUR RELATIONSHIP v15**
- Jesus refers to His disciples as His "*friends*". a term used to refer to a king's inner circle.
- His love for His people moves Him to lead us into the green pasture and beside the still waters of His Father's will for our lives.
- Because He loves us, He will not keep us in the dark concerning the Lord's will for our lives. Abraham - **Gen 18**.

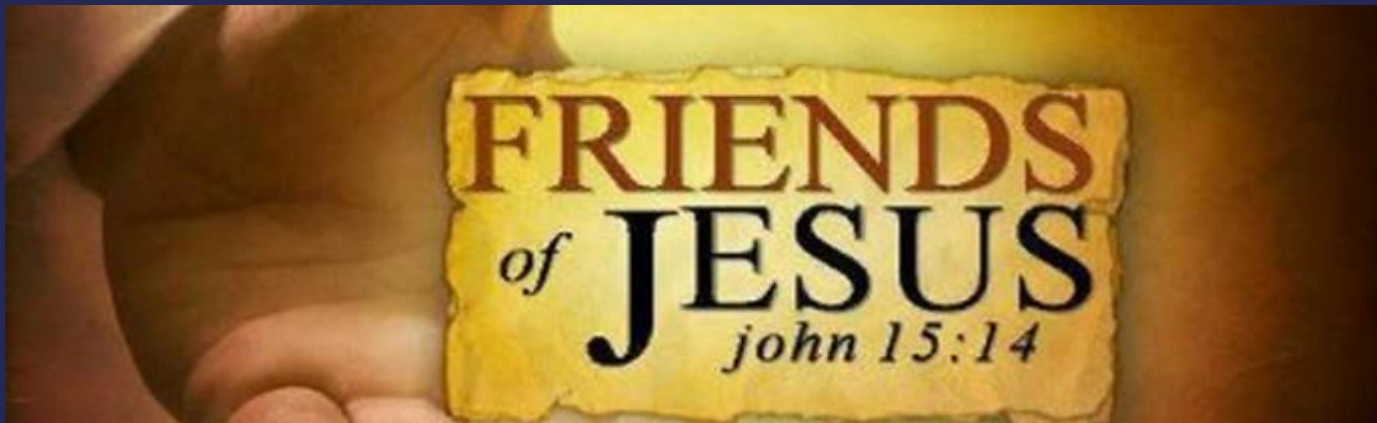
# HIS FRIENDSHIP IS SEEN IN HIS SACRIFICE

- **It Was Voluntary** – The statement, “*Lay down his life*”, John 10:18; John 18:37; Matt 27:50
- **To the death** 1 Pet. 2:24; Gal. 3:13; Heb. 9:28; 1 Pet. 3:18; 1 John 2:2. Jesus was dying for you so that you wouldn't have to go to Hell!
- **It Was Vicious**
  - **Betrayed by Judas and deserted by the disciples - Matt. 26:47-56**
  - **Beaten by the Temple guards - Luke 22:63-64**
  - **Rejected by the very people He came to save - Matt. 27:17-25; John 1:11**
  - **Scourged - Matt. 27:26 Furrows - Psa. 129:3)**

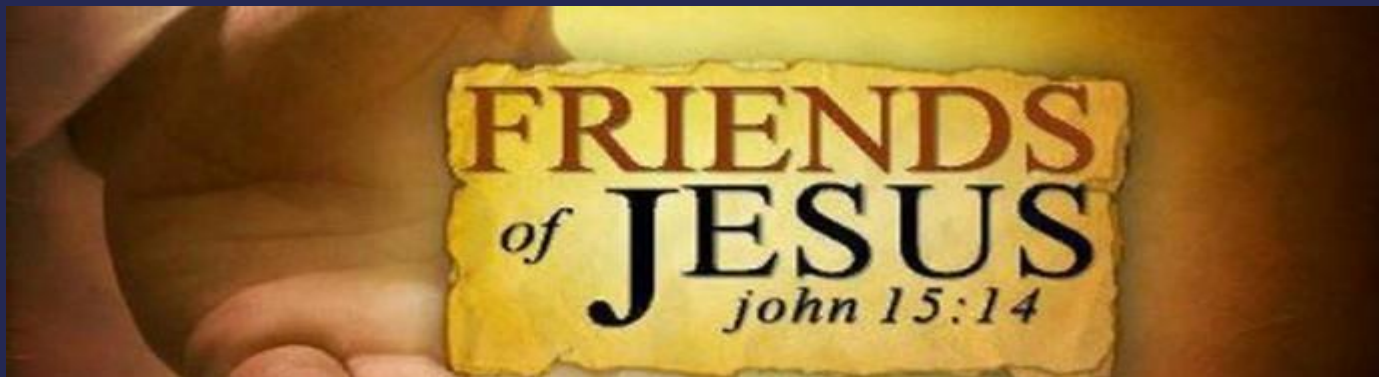


## HIS INVESTMENT IN OUR RELATIONSHIP

- Our relationship is only possible because He died for us, **Rom. 5:8**.
- He died for those He referred to as His "*friends*" while they were still His enemies, **Rom. 8:7**.
- No one else would give his life for those whom he knew would dishonour him and neglect him.
- His love for us runs far deeper than we can comprehend!

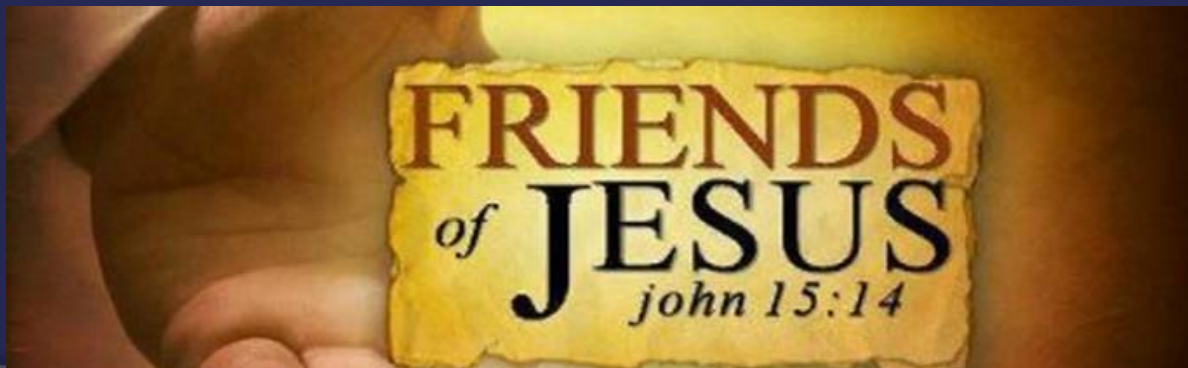


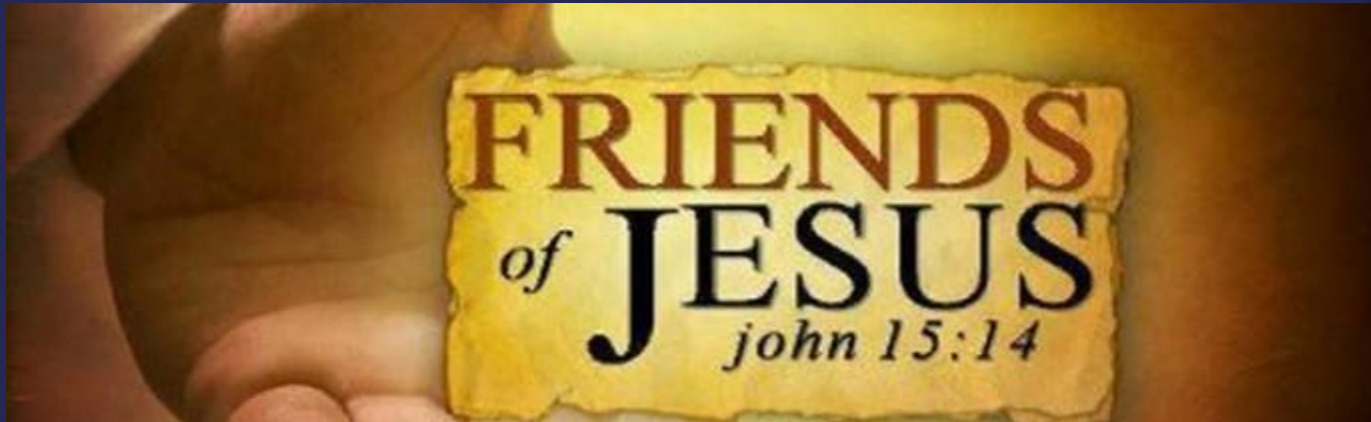
- **HIS INVOLVEMENT IN OUR DISCIPLESHIP.** v12, 14, 16-17
- His desire is to remake us in His image, Rom. 8:29. He does this by becoming intimately involved in our lives
  - **He chose us, we did not choose Him, v. 16** , disciples picked their own rabbi. His desire is for more than our salvation.





- **He ordained us, v. 16.** We have been appointed to the task - of doing, without question the perfect will of the Lord. We are told to "***go and bring forth fruit.***"
- **His promise is that our fruit will remain [last forever], v. 16.** Man-made results will fade, but that which is done for Him will continue to bear fruit long after we are gone!
- **He also promises to answer our prayers so that we might get the job done for Him, v. 16.**
- Prayers that work are those prayed in accord with God's will and kingdom, **Matt. 6:9-13.**

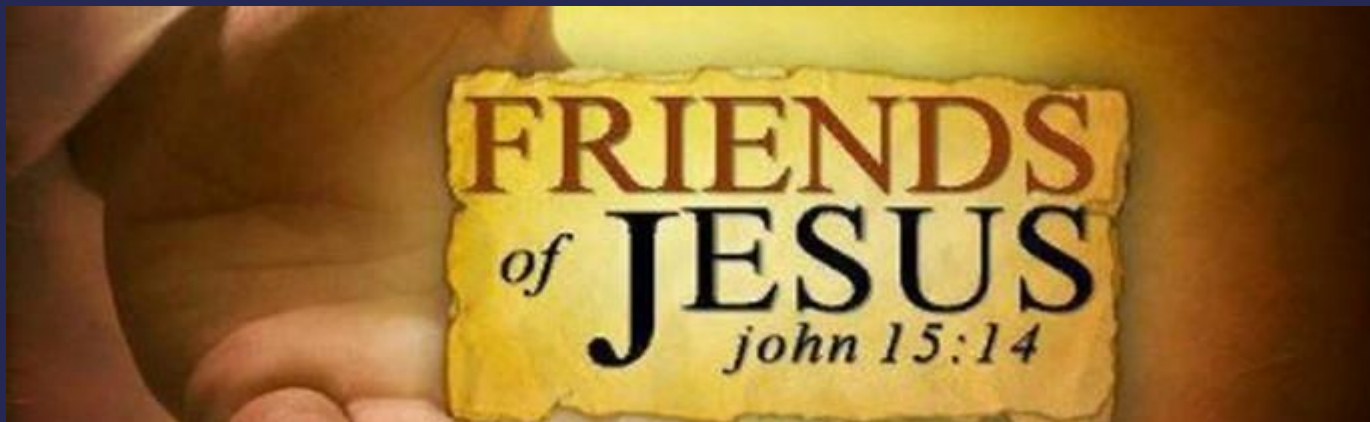




- ⦿ **v. 14.** Our relationship with God becomes a reality at the moment when saving faith is exercised. However, it is conditioned on our obedience to His commands
- ⦿ We are to "***do whatsoever***" He commands us

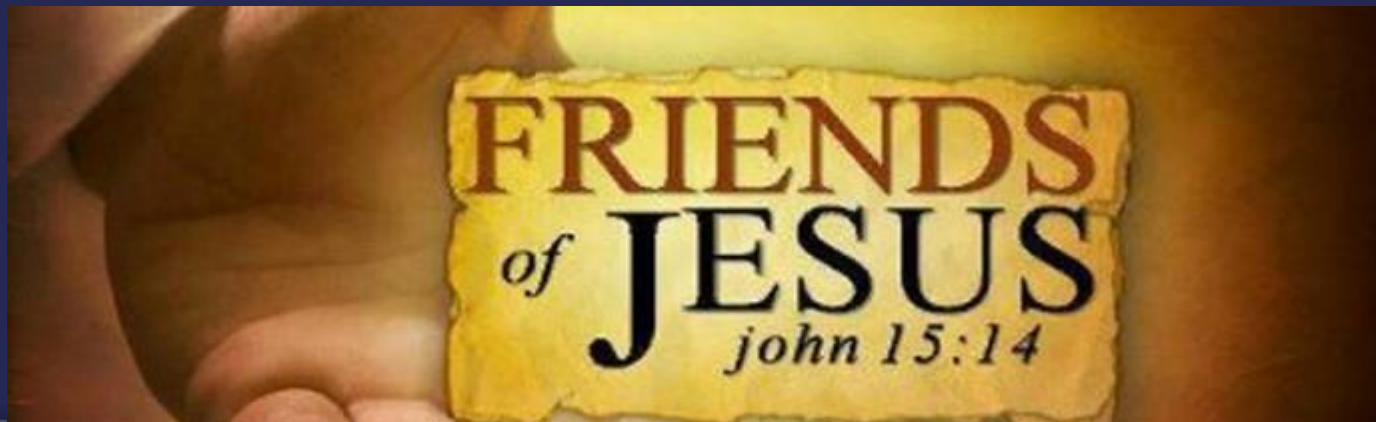
## HIS FRIENDSHIP IS SEEN IN HIS SHARING

- Jesus shares some special gifts with us.
- **He Shares His Love** – Jesus reminds us that he loves us v14-15.
- **He Shares His Life** -Jesus not only gave His life **FOR** us on the cross, but that He also **IMPARTS** His life to us day by day.
- **He Shares His Lessons** – Jesus tells His disciples that He has chosen to treat them like friends.
- He shares with us the deepest secrets of divine truth. He holds nothing back from His friends.

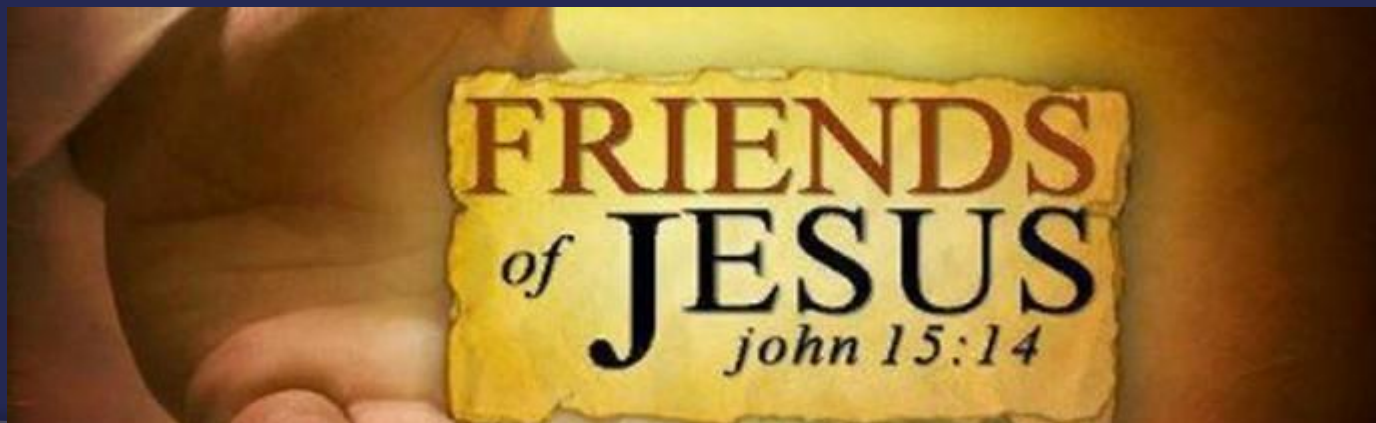


## HIS FRIENDSHIP IS SEEN IN HIS SALVATION

- ⦿ **We Are Chosen By Him** - because the Lord in His grace chose you! After all, the sinner is dead in his sins, **Eph. 2:1**
- ⦿ **John 6:37-40**. Thank God for a Friend like Jesus Who take our place on Calvary, and in spite of our sins, loves us enough to call us to Himself for salvation
- ⦿ **We Are Called By Him** – after He saves us, He calls us into His service, **Eph. 2:10**. by gifting us all to fulfil a special place in the body of Christ, **1 Cor. 12**.



- **We Are Comforted By Him** – He lets us know that our relationship is further blessed by the fact that He promises us that we will enjoy an intimate relationship with His Father also.
- **JESUS: THE BEST FRIEND WE HAVE EVER HAD**
- When you have Him for your Friend, you have discovered a friendship that knows no limits. He is, by definition, the ultimate Friend, **Pro. 18:24**.



- ⦿ ***Are you the friend of Jesus?***
- ⦿ ***Are you a friend like Jesus?***
- ⦿ ***Are you willing to become His friend and a friend like Him?***
- ⦿ Today would be a great day for the Lord's people to begin the process of becoming more like Jesus

