

# LIFE GROUP

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Friends with God November 10, 2024

#### Summary

Pastor Kyle begins a series entitled [Be]Friended, showing how Jesus invites us into a true friendship with Him, as seen in John 15:9-17. Jesus shows friendship through His sacrifice, sharing God's plans and choosing us with intention. He calls us to obey Him, not from obligation, but as a natural response of trust. This friendship allows us to know Jesus closely, trust Him deeply and live a fuller life.

#### Scripture

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. 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. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other." John 15:9-17 (NIV)

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. Hebrews 11:8 (NIV)

You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. James 2:22-23 (NIV)

#### Let's Start

Think about the closest friends in your life. What qualities make those friendships meaningful to you?

#### Gratitude and Prayer

How has God worked in your life since we were together?

#### Let's Talk

1. When you think about your closest friends, does Jesus come to mind? Why or why not?
2. Why do you think Jesus would want to call us His friends, not just His followers or servants?
3. In what ways does Jesus demonstrate true friendship in John 15:9-17?
4. Pastor Kyle shared three reasons we know that Jesus is our friend:

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- Jesus sacrificed for us.
- Jesus shares openly with us.
- Jesus selected us.

Are you investing in your friendship with Jesus?

5. Why might trusting Jesus as a friend feel challenging?
6. How might you start to build a deeper friendship with Jesus this week?

### Let's Act

Pastor Kyle encouraged us to schedule some "friendship" time with Jesus this week. Take an hour to walk, go for a drive or have a cup of coffee and talk to Jesus like you would a friend. Share with Him your hopes and fears. Ask Him, "What do You want me to know about You?"

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