

In the Knowledge of HIM

Getting Reacquainted with Jesus (Ephesians 1:17)

2

Jesus the Friend

John 15:9-17

The Greek word PHILOS refers to a friend or close companion. It was also used to refer to someone who filled the role of what we today call the “best man.” In Jesus, we have the greatest Friend of all because He gives us...

Full Devotion

*The absolute highest expression of love is the _____ of one’s self for another, and Jesus was willing to do this for each and every one of us. Many who call themselves our friends stop far short of this; we are by nature selfish and we tend to hold back a lot for ourselves. The Lord is an “all the way” friend who will never keep from us anything we need and will never abandon us along the way (**Matthew 28:20**). We can have incredible confidence in the friendship of a God who has already made the greatest sacrifice; having already given it all, there is no reason to think He won’t give us everything we need (**Romans 8:32**).*

Full Disclosure

*True friends don’t keep each other in the dark. While we are still servants and He is still the Master, our relationship with God takes on a whole different dimension in Christ. He allows us into the depths of His knowledge and understanding, revealing the mysteries of God that have been hidden since the foundation of the world (**Ephesians 3:1-12**). The psalmist speaks of this portion of our blessings in the Lord, reminding us that the _____ of the Lord is with those who fear Him (**Psalms 25:8-14**). There’s no doubt, fear, or guesswork when we are truly living in friendship with God through Jesus.*

Full Discipleship

*The key is **OBEDIENCE!** In order to have Jesus’ full devotion and full disclosure, He must have your full discipleship. Jesus plainly says His friends are those who keep His commands (**John 15:14**), and the main one He emphasizes is the command to love one another with the same love He has shown us. There is no excuse and no way to plead ignorance: Jesus _____ us how to be His friend (by obeying His command), then He _____ us how by the example of sacrificial love that He has left us.*