

“How Close A Friend Are You To Jesus?”

Lesson Text: **John 15:12-15.**

I. The Friends Of Jesus Have A Close Relationship To Him.

- Jesus Desires To Have A Close Relationship With You.
 - Not Just The 12 Disciples, But With All Of Us! **Matthew 11:28-30.**
 - It Is A Devoted Friendship- **Mark 8:34.**
 - It Is A Loyal Friendship- **Matthew 6:24; James 4:4.**
 - It Is A Rewarding Friendship- **Luke 18:29-30.**
 - It Is Through God’s Word, Prayer, And Worship That We Stay Close:
 - **John 6:44-45; Matthew 14:23; John 4:23-24.**

II. The Friends Of Jesus Keep His Commandments.

- **John 15:14.**
- Our Relationship To Jesus Is Based On Love And Obedience:
 - **John 15:9-11; John 14:15; John 14:22-24.**
- Are You Close To Jesus By Obeying Him?

III. The Friends Of Jesus Are Not Ashamed Of Him.

- **Mark 8:38.** We Cannot Be Ashamed Of Jesus!
- Why Would We Ever Be Ashamed Of Him?
 - Fear Of Persecution, Desiring Friendships of the World... **Mark 8:35-37.**
- If We Are A Close Friend Of Jesus, We Will Tell Others About Him.
 - **2 Timothy 1:7-12; Acts 8:4-5; vs12??**

IV. The Friends Of Jesus Don’t Forsake Him.

- **Proverbs 27:10; Proverbs 17:17.**
- Jesus Is Faithful To Us- **Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5; Proverbs 18:24.**
 - Despite The Fact That Others Have Forsaken Him **John 6:66; 2 Timothy 4:10.**
- We Can Forsake Him By Disobedience:
 - **1 Timothy 4:1; 2 John 9-11; 2 Peter 2:15.**
- We Can Forsake Him By Neglecting To Be Where He Is:
 - **Matthew 18:20; Hebrews 10:25.**
- The Close Friends Of Jesus Will Be There With Him- **Hebrews 10:19-23.**

V. The Friends Of Jesus Look Forward To Being With Him.

- **John 21:4-7.**
- **1 John 3:2-3; Titus 2:11-14.**
- Do You Look Forward To Christ’s Return?
- Would Jesus Consider You His Close Friend, And Why?