

**BECOMING BEST FRIENDS WITH GOD**  
**#SermonFriendship**  
**Building Healthy Relationships Part 7**  
**Dr. Mark Jackson, June 23, 2019**

**Romans 5:10-11** Since our **friendship with God** was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. <sup>11</sup> So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us **friends of God**. (NLT)

**John 15:15** I no longer call you slaves... Now **you are my friends**... (NLT)

**Exodus 34:14** Do not worship any other god. The Lord is a **jealous God**. In fact, **his name is Jealous**. (NIRV)

**How to Build A Friendship With God**

**1. MAKE IT MY FIRST PRIORITY**

**Philippians 3:8** I consider everything to be nothing compared to **knowing Christ Jesus** my Lord. To know him is worth much more than anything else. Because of him I have lost everything. But I consider all of it to be garbage so I can **know Christ better**. (NIRV)

**Jeremiah 29:13** You will... find me when you seek me with **all your heart**. (NIV)

**Jeremiah 9:23-24** This is what the Lord says: "Wise men must not **brag** about their wisdom. Strong men must not **brag** about their strength. Rich men must not **brag** about their money. <sup>24</sup> But if someone wants to **brag**, let him **brag** about this: Let him **brag** that he **understands and knows me**... (ICB)

**2. DECIDE WHOSE FRIENDSHIP I WANT MOST**

**1 Timothy 6:21a** Some people have missed **the most important thing in life—they don't know God**... (LB)

**James 4:4** ...You should know that **loving the world** is the same as **hating God**. Anyone who wants to be a **friend of the world** becomes **God's enemy**. (NCV)

**John 15:14** You are **my friends** IF you **obey my commandments**. (GW)

**3. SPEND TIME WITH GOD**

**John 5:44** How do you expect to get anywhere with God when you spend all your time... ignoring God? (MSG)

### How To Get Closer To God

- Through WORSHIP

**Psalm 25:14** God-friendship is for God-worshippers; They are the ones he confides in. (MSG)

- Through PRAYER

**Psalm 145:18** The LORD is close to everyone who prays to him, to all who truly pray to him. (NCV)

- Through THE BIBLE

**Joshua 1:8** Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. (NLT)

- Through FELLOWSHIP

**Matthew 18:20** For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them. (NLT)

#### 4. TRUST GOD IN MY PAIN

**Psalm 55:22** Cast all your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall. (NIV)

**Psalm 91:14** I'll get you out of any trouble. I'll give you the best of care if you'll only get to know and trust me. (MSG)

**Jeremiah 15:19** If you return to me, I will restore you... (NLT)

**John 15:13-14** There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.  
<sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. (NLT)

**1 John 3:23** And this is what God commands: that we believe in his Son, Jesus Christ, and that we love each other, just as he commanded. (NCV)

**1 Corinthians 11:23-24** ...On the night he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took bread <sup>24</sup> and spoke a prayer of thanksgiving. He broke the bread and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." (GW)