

How To Be a Friend of God Week 4 03-06-16

What do these real life people have in common?

- Colonel Sanders?
- Diana Ross
- Angus T Jones
- Son of Sam Serial Killer (David Berkowitz)
- Randy Travis
- Sam Walton
- Dion Sanders
- Jake Peavy (San Diego Padres Pitcher)
- Chuck Norris
- Jim Zorn
- Stephen Baldwin
- ?????

Ans: They are Friends of God!

Today,

Looking relationally, applying the qualities we have talked about for being a friend, let's consider How to be a Friend of God

Who is a friend of God?

1. A friend of God knows Him personally

Jesus said,

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

-John 10:27

Heb. 4:16 says, **"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."**

2. A friend of God loves God

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment."

-Mt. 22:36-38

3. A friend of God enjoys spending time with Him

How can we spend time with God?

1. Through Prayer

“Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”
-Heb. 4:16

2. By reading the Bible

“Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path”
-Ps. 119:105

3. Gathering with other believers

“For where two or three come together in my name there am I with them.”
-Mt. 18:20

Who is a Friend of God?

4. A friend of God is loyal [to His cause]

Do you know what His cause is?

“This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.”
-1 Tim. 2:3-4

So how can we become a friend of God?

1. By repentance. Question: From what?

Rom. 3:23 says, “For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.” NLT

To sin is to break God’s law / His commandments? **Ever done that before?**

2. By personal faith in Jesus Christ and his story

“They replied, believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”
-Acts 16:31

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

-Acts 4:12

“Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.”He was even called the friend of God.”

-James 2:23

“We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are....Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.”

-Romans 3:22,24 NLT

Growing our Friendship with God

1. It grows through my obedience

You are my friends if you do what I command.” -Jn 15:14

2. Our friendship with God grows through my fellowship

Are you a friend of God?

Next steps this week:

1. I will get baptized for my faith in Jesus
2. I will talk with my friend about following Jesus