



MOUNT SINAI MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

BIBLE STUDY

“TIME WITH JESUS”

Lesson 1 – “Jesus: A Friend”

Scripture Reference: John 15:12-13

OBJECTIVE: To learn that we have a special, true, and dear friend in Jesus Christ. To understand why that friendship is so important in your everyday life.

There is a special love connection that Jesus desires to have with His followers. Jesus in John 15:1 is the true vine and His follower are the branches, John 15:2. The branches are to bear fruit, by abiding in Jesus. We learn that apart from Jesus, you can do nothing, but connected to Jesus, nothing is impossible.

I. BENEFIT OF FRIENDSHIP

The benefit of the special relationship with Jesus is: **FAVOR**

Scripture Reference: Luke 1:37

Favor-minded means you release your faith, knowing that God wants to assist you in your life.

Definition of Favor: Preferential treatment given to one by God

Because all things are possible with God, you should consider that your destiny, journey, and purpose is tied to God's ability to make things happen.

EXERCISE: Take some time, sit and meditate, and allow God to pour His thoughts into your mind and spirit. Once you sense the presence of God fueling your mind, write those thoughts down.

Whatever you wrote down is possible because of God's favor.

II. MAINTAINING FRIENDSHIP

The way that the friendship is fruitful and productive is through: **ABIDING**

Definition of Abiding: means in order to survive, you must keep the commandments of Jesus and remain in His love.

Jesus provides these benefits because He is your friend: **John 15:12-13**

III. KNOWING YOUR FRIEND

Who is Jesus? John 1:1-3

A. Your Friend Jesus is:

a. The Word of God, **John 8:58, John 17:5, Psalm 90:2**

1. Jesus is the logos. He is that which is spoken concerning God
2. He is able to address anything about God
3. He is the image of God, **Colossians 1:15**

Abiding in God's Word – **John 8:31**

1. I must accept its authority – **Prov. 30:5, 2 Tim. 3:16**
2. I must assimilate its truth
 - i. Receive God's Word – **Luke 8:18**
 - ii. Read God's Word – **Deut. 17:19**
 - iii. Research or study God's Word – **James 1:25**
 - iv. Remember God's Word – **Ps. 119:11**
 - v. Reflect on God's Word – **Col. 3:16a**
3. I must apply its principles – **James 1:22, Mt. 17:25**

b. The Creator, **Genesis 1:1**

c. He is Life Itself, **John 10:10**

B. He is Your Redemption

He bears your sins and your griefs, **Isaiah 43:1-3, 53:3**

C. He is Your Sounding Board

- a. He is the one to whom you can pray to, **Matthew 6:8; 7:7-8, 21:22**
- b. He is able to handle all your concerns, **Matthew 11:28-30**
- c. He is your guarantor, **John 14:12-13**

D. He is Your Peace, **John 14:27, John 16:33**

E. He is Your Resolve, **Philippians 4:8**

IV. THE PRESENCE OF YOUR FRIEND

Read Revelations 4:11a - Jesus our Lord is worthy to receive glory

You Bring God Glory:

1. By Worshipping Him- **Rom. 1:13b.**
2. By Loving other believers- **Rom. 15:7**
3. By Becoming Like Christ- **Phil1:11, 2 Cor. 3:18**
4. By Serving others with your gifts- **I Peter 4:10**
5. By Telling others about Him- **2 Cor. 4:15**

CONCLUSION

How to Develop Your Friendship with God? You are as close to God as you choose to be, it's your choice.

1. I must choose to be honest with God – **Mt. 11:19**
2. I must choose to obey God in faith – **John 15:14**
3. I must choose to value what God values – **2 Cor. 11:2, Ps. 69:9**
4. I must desire friendship with God more than anything else- **Ps. 27:4, Gen. 32:26**