



Week 2: “Friends”

Introduction (*Read aloud before discussion.*)

Friendship is under fire. It is a lost art. Yet, we desire it. We were created for it, and we are being called into it. In this series we will be talking about becoming “friends that are friends of Jesus”.

Sermon Discussion (*Use as a guide for dialogue, let God lead, and read the verses aloud.*)

1. Who was your first good friend and why would you consider that person your first good friend
2. Read John 1:40-45. What is Jesus doing in this story? What are Andrew and Philip doing in this story? What is forming at the beginning of John’s Gospel?
3. We don’t usually think of friendship as spiritual. But consider God: God is not a crowd nor an individual but a small friend group (God, Jesus, and the Spirit). Is this a new way to think about God?
4. How is friendship under fire in our culture? What has the enemy used to hurt friendships?
5. Read John 1:46. Nathaniel had his excuse. What is your main excuse that keeps you from friendship? How has the enemy gained ground in this area?
6. Read John 1:46 again. Philip persists. He presses in, even though Nathaniel put up a wall. What would it look like for you to persist, grow, and press into deeper, missional, and fun friendships?



Ministry Time (*Invite the Spirit of God to come. Say, “Come Holy Spirit.”*)

Share the excuse, the hurt, or the fear associated with friendship and invite the Holy Spirit to come heal, speak truth, and prepare you for your friendship journey in the near future.

Spiritual Formation (*This is a weekly practice as we seek to be with and like Jesus.*)

We don't think of friendship as a spiritual thing but it is. This is how God lives and how God does life. This week, take a step toward deeper friendship with someone or with a few people. Risk, ask, invite, share, call, or face that fear as you say a new yes to friendship.

Daily Reading (*Tune into the daily “Together On Mission” podcast, and let's start every day with Jesus.*)

MON

John 1 | Psalm 70

TUES

John 6 | Psalm 71

WED

John 13 | Psalm 72

THUR

John 15 | Psalm 73

FRI

John 21 | Psalm 74

SAT

Catch up on daily reading or choose a passage, any passage and enjoy

Tune in next week for “Friends” - Week 3