

SERMON TITLE: Being A Friend of God

SPEAKER: Pastor Steve Milazzo

DATE: January 21, 2024

KEY SCRIPTURE: John 15:9-16

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⁹ "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

OPENING QUESTIONS:

What are you celebrating in your life this week? (What are you thankful for?)

What's challenging you this week? (What do you need prayer for?)

SCRIPTURE: Read the scripture out loud.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

What are some characteristics of a good friend?

What is God's number one priority for our lives?

How does God demonstrate His holiness?

Why does God want to be our friend?

How can feeling unworthy keep us from God's blessings and His presence?

- How will you develop a desire for God?
- What will you do to experience a deeper friendship with God?

PRAYER: Take time to pray for one another. Pray that God will put in you the desire to seek Him daily. Pray that you develop a personal intimacy with God. May we always put Him first in everything. Amen.