

THIS IS US

PART 2: FRIENDSHIP

Sermon Notes

Text: John 15:12-15

Intro:

When Jesus is the center of your relationships, you will have healthy relationships.

John 15:12-15

Friends are very influential - 1 Corinthians 15:33

The Book of Proverbs tells us that *friends are consistent* (17:17; 18:24) and *friends tell the truth, even when it hurts* (27:6). A *counterfeit friend is a fair-weather friend* (14:20; 19:6).

“Real friends always let you in, and they never let you down” ~Tim Keller

“Friendship is so weird. You just pick a human you’ve met and you’re like, ‘Yep, I like this one,’ and you just do stuff with them.” ~Bill Murray

Friendship consists of two people standing side by side, looking at the same object together.

The key to Christian friendship is a common friendship with Jesus.

John 15:12-15 - Jesus call us “friend” because we share his pursuits and passions.

The Meaning of Marriage – To help each other become the new creations that God is transforming us into.

Conclusion

John 15:13 - Jesus proved his friendship with us by laying down his life for us.

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?
2. How do you define "friendship"? What do you think of Tim Keller's definition (see notes)? How about Bill Murray's comment (see notes)? How does a friendship happen?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read John 15:12-15. Jesus tells us that we prove our friendship with him by doing what he commands. Making commands seems like a strange way to foster a friendship...but consider what command Jesus is referring to (read v. 12 & 17).
 - It seems as though friendship with Jesus is proven by loving the people he loves, in the way that he loves them (v. 12). He said, "...as I have loved you." How has Jesus shown his love for you? How can you practically apply his way of loving to the way you love your friends?
 - Some people treat their friends like servants (v. 15). Some people are fair-weather friends (Proverbs 14:20; 19:6). Have you experienced this? How can we elevate our friendships out of the tendency to "use and abuse" each other, into the kind of friendship that blesses both sides?
2. Is it possible for a Christian to have a healthy, mutually beneficial friendship with a non-Christian? Why or why not? Do you struggle to make friends with non-Christians? Do you struggle to make friends with Christians? Why do you think this is so?

3. What role does friendship have in a marriage? How can you foster friendship with your spouse?
 - Is it important to have friends outside of your marriage? Why or why not? Are there certain roles a platonic friend can fulfill that your spouse cannot? Why or why not?

Application:

1. How will you be a better friend this week?

Prayer:

- Pray for healthy friendships

Other Requests

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