

JESUS' FRIENDS
(John 15:12-16)

- I. Jesus' Friends LOVE EACH OTHER (John 15:12-13)
 - A. This FULFILLS His commandments (cf. 15:10)
 - B. This is possible only by ABIDING in Him (cf. Rom. 5:5)
 - C. This is CHARACTERISTIC of the redeemed (cf. John 13:35)
 - D. The standard is Jesus' love FOR US (cf. 13:34)
 - 1. It is not mere SENTIMENT or SUPERFICIAL attachment
 - 2. It is a SELFLESS devotion to meeting one another's NEEDS
 - E. It is PROVED by willingness to DIE for one's FRIENDS (cf. Rom. 5:7-8)
 - 1. He's about to DIE for THEM
 - 2. They must be prepared to DIE for ONE ANOTHER

- II. Jesus' Friends OBEY HIM (John 15:14)
 - A. Obedience is not a CONDITION for BECOMING His friend (cf. Eph. 2:8-9)
 - B. Obedience is EVIDENCE that you ARE His friend

- III. Jesus' Friends KNOW DIVINE TRUTH (John 15:15)
 - A. He will not call them SLAVES any longer
 - B. Instead He has called them FRIENDS
 - 1. We remain SUBJECT to His authority

2. He has REVEALED everything He has HEARD from His Father

IV. Jesus' Friends Have Been Specifically CHOSEN BY HIM (John 15:16)

A. They did not choose Him, but HE chose THEM

B. He has APPOINTED them to a divine MISSION

1. We are to GO (cf. Matt. 28:19-20)

2. We are to produce FRUIT that REMAINS forever

3. The FATHER will provide WHATEVER we ask in Jesus' name