

JESUS: OUR KING AND FRIEND

Jesus is our _____. (The Proof)

God's definition of _____ friendship includes... (Prov 27:17, John 15:12-13)

Jesus proved himself a friend to us.

Jesus proved his friendship through his _____. (John 15:15-17, Luke 7:34, 19:1-10)

Jesus proved his friendship through his _____. (John 15:13, Luke 22:42, Rom 5:6-8, Heb 12:2)

Jesus is our _____. (The Proof)

Jesus is our king _____ from long ago. (Dan 7:13-14)

Jesus demonstrates his kingly authority over _____. (Matt 8:23-27, 9:27-30a)

Jesus is the _____, _____, _____ king.
(Eph 1:20-21, Phil 2:9-11, Rev 19:11-16)

Jesus is our friend _____ our king. (The Product)

We demonstrate friendship with Christ through _____ to him as our king. (John 15:14)

Proverbs 27:17

[17] Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another. (ESV)

[17] Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend. (KJV)

John 15:12–13

[12] "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. [13] Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. (ESV)

John 15:15–17

[15] No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. [16] You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. [17] These things I command you, so that you will love one another. (ESV)

Luke 7:34

[34] The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' (ESV)

John 15:13

[13] Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. (ESV)

Luke 22:42

[42] saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." (ESV)

Hebrews 12:2

[2] looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (ESV)

Daniel 7:13–14

[13] "I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. [14] And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed. (ESV)

Matthew 8:23–27

[23] And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. [24] And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. [25] And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing." [26] And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. [27] And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?" (ESV)

Matthew 9:27–30a

[27] And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." [28] When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." [29] Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." [30] And their eyes were opened." (ESV)

Philippians 2:9–11

[9] Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, [10] so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (ESV)

Ephesians 1:20–21

[20] that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. (ESV)

Revelation 19:11–16

[11] Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. [12] His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. [13] He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. [14] And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. [15] From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. [16] On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. (ESV)

John 15:14

[14] You are my friends if you do what I command you. (ESV)

Jesus: Our King and Friend

October 24, 2021

Open: When you think of a “friend,” what words come to mind? When you think of a “king,” what words come to mind?

Read & Discuss: John 15:12-17

1. According to Jesus, one aspect of friendship is a sacrificial love (v. 13). What are ways Jesus has modelled this for us in Scripture? Why is understanding and accepting Jesus’ love for us foundational to having a right relationship with Him?
2. Another aspect of friendship is relational intimacy (v. 15). How has Jesus pursued this for us? What are ways we can foster our relational intimacy with Jesus? If such intimacy is necessary for true friendship, how can we foster greater relational intimacy with other believers?
3. In verse 14, Jesus says, “You are my friends if you do what I command you.” Why would such a statement not go over well if any of us said this to one of our friends? How does this statement from Jesus help us understand the full nature of our friendship with Him?
4. As king, one of Jesus’ commands is that we love other believers as He has loved us (v. 12). Why would Jesus want us to respond to His love by loving *other* believers? If you were helping a new believer understand what this love should look like in everyday life, what might you say?
5. Another of Jesus’ commands is to go and “bear fruit” that abides (v. 16). From what you know of Jesus’ priorities, what do think He means by this command”? After giving this command, Jesus says His Father will give us “whatever [we] ask the Father in [Jesus’] name” (v. 16). Given the context, what should we learn from Jesus’ words about how to pray and what to pray for?
6. What do you appreciate about having Jesus as your friend? What misconceptions could people develop regarding viewing Jesus as our friend? How might it adversely affect our relationship with Jesus if we fail to think of Him as our friend?
7. What do you appreciate about Jesus being your king? What are ways Jesus is different from earthly kings? How might it adversely affect our relationship with Jesus if we fail to recognize Him as our king?

Apply: Is there an aspect of Jesus’ being both our king and our friend that you struggle to embrace? What could you do to cultivate a more biblical relationship with Him?

Pray: Pray that we would be people who properly understand Jesus as both our friend and our king.

John 15:12-17

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷ These things I command you, so that you will love one another. (ESV)