**R1006 Rumination for May 05, 2024**

The **T**heme:**Friendship** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *Henceforth I call you not servants…but I have called you* ***friends****…* Jn. 15:15

The **T**hots:

1. **Christ, the Friend of Sinners** - ***You are My friends*** **Jn. 15:14**

*Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his* ***friends****.*

*You are My* ***friends*** *if you do whatever I command you* Jn. 15:13, 14

1. The Need for a True Friend. Psa. 142:4
2. In times of Loneli**ness** – *Look on my right hand and see* v. 4a
3. In times of Helpless**ness** – *For there is no one who acknowledges me;* v. 4b
4. In times of Sinful**ness** – *No one cares for my soul.* v. 4c
5. The Marks of a True Friend. Rom. 5:6-11
6. He lov**eth** at all times (unto death) …
7. *Christ died for the ungodly*. v. 6
8. *While we were still sinners,Christ died for us* v. 8
9. *When we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son.* v. 10
10. He stick**eth** at all times even…

*When we were still* ***W****ithout strength* v. 6

1. When we were **W**orthless – *For scarcely for a righteous man will one die;*

*yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die.*  v. 7

1. When we were under His **W**rath – *For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.* v. 9
2. He help**eth** at all times. Rom 5:8-11
* He is the **A**mbassador of God. v. 8

*God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

* He is the **A**tonement for Sin. vv. 9, 11

*Much more then, being now justified ﻿by His blood, ﻿we shall be saved from wrath through Him*

*…we also ﻿joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom we have now received the ﻿atonement*

* He is the **A**ssurance of Salvation to them that believe through His resurrected life. v. 10

*For if, ﻿when we were enemies, ﻿we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by ﻿his life*

1. **Believers are the Friends of Christ.** **Jn. 15:14, 15**
2. The **Ca**ll of Friendship – *but I have called you friends* 15:15
3. He Reveals His **P**urpose - *I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth:*
4. He Reveals His **P**rogramme - *all things that I have heard of My Father I have made known unto you.*
5. The **C**ondition for His Friendship. – *Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you* – Jn. 15:14
6. **C**ontinue in His Love and keep His **C**ommandments. vv. 9, 10

*As the Father hath loved Me, so have I loved you: continue ye in My love;*

*If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in My love…*

1. **C**ommunicate with one another. v. 12

*This is My commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.*

1. **C**onsistency in fruit-baring. v. 16

*Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you,*

*that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain…*

1. The **C**ommunion of **F**riendship and **F**ruit-bearing.
2. Abiding in the **J**esus. v. 7 Cf. vv.4, 5

*If ye abide in Me, and ﻿My words abide in you, ﻿ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you*

1. Abiding in His **J**oy. v. 11

*These things have I spoken unto you, that ﻿Ny joy might remain in you, and ﻿that your joy might be full*

1. **Beware of Friends that Conspire and Betray**
2. He might be a **F**amiliar **F**riend, cf. Judas Iscariot, a disciple of Jesus. Psa. 41:9

*Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against Me.*

1. He might be a **F**riend turned **F**oe. Matt. 26:50

*Jesus said…Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took Him.*

1. He might be a **F**amily **F**riend – Lk. 21:16

 *And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends;*

 *and some of you shall they cause to be put to death*

**Con**. Continue to Trust in Jesus, the Friend Who will never **B**etray you Who is closer than a **B**rother. Pro. 18:24

*A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: And there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.*

 *What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!*

 *What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer!* Joseph M. Scriven

**Points To Ponder: *A Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed.***