

TEXT: John 15:1-17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sign up if you need childcare for the all Life Group Gathering coming up on August 3rd. Follow the link [here](#)
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BIG IDEA: Christian friendship is marked by death

Ice Breaker: What are some of the closest friendships that you have had? What marked those friendships? Why were/are those friends so close?

What is the context of John 15?

John 15:1-4

- € Why does Jesus talk about salvation before he talks about Christian friendship?
- € What are ways that you can remain in Christ?
- € How do we apply this text in regard to Christian friendship?

John 15:5-8

- € What does Jesus say we can do without him?
- € Have you ever been a fair-weather fan of something? Why were you a fan of that thing for only a brief time?
- € What does Jesus say the sign of a true believer is? How can we think differently in light of what Jesus says in this verse? How can we view this verse in light of the rest of Scripture?
- € Why can the truths of this passage be hard to hear?

John 15:9-17

- What marks your friendships with your inner-circle? Mutual joy? Mutual honoring and respect? Or do you consume other people?
- When something good happens to your friend, do you celebrate with them? Why?
- When you have conversations with your friends are you more concerned with being heard or with hearing?
- Do you dump your burdens on your friends or do you take their burdens on you?
- How can we love one another?

Quotes

True friends don't spend time gazing into each other's eyes. They may show great tenderness towards each other, but they face in the same direction—toward common projects, goals—above all, towards a common Lord.
- C.S. Lewis

A friend is long sought, hardly found, and with difficulty kept. Let those who will, allow gold to dazzle them and be borne along in splendor, their very baggage glittering with gold and silver. Love is not to be purchased, and affection has no price. The friendship that can cease has never been real. - Jerome

Bad company is like a nail driven into a post, which, after the first or second blow, may be drawn out with little difficulty; but being once driven up to the head, the pincers cannot take hold to draw it out, but which can only be done by the destruction of the wood. - Augustine of Hippo

