

Hello friends and happy Monday. Thank you for joining us today to start your week in a devotion called ***What is our legacy***

In ***2 Thessalonians 1:11-12*** Paul says: “ *We constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith. We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ_*”.

What does it mean to leave a legacy for Christ? It is not necessarily how long we live that determines our legacy, it is more the length of the shadow of our influence and the hearts that we impact for Christ that defines what legacy we leave behind. So if my purpose is guided by my love for God and people, then I am likely set to live an enduring life of eternal significance. ***Leaving a legacy for Christ is about growing into a faithful friend of God, a diligent seeker of His heart, and in time, an intimate lover who enjoys oneness with God***.

Friends, as most of you know, I was born and raised in a non-Christian home. God opened my eyes to His love and grace when I was 48 years old. He called me into a friendship and a journey full of adventure, sorrow, success, failure and tests of faith, ever since. And it is in this journey that I’m constantly reminded that God is a forever friend, who longs to draw me closer to His heart. And that Jesus is a friend who sticks closer than a brother, warns me against my foolish thoughts and ambitions, walks hand in hand through the valley of the shadow of death, comforts my pain, heals my hurt, defeats the enemy constantly in my path, and renews my faithfulness. It’s been in this journey that I learn that **“*leaving a legacy for Christ will teach us the lessons of loyal friendship with God during both the good and the bad times*”**.

Friends, our Creator, Almighty God—reached down to us and chose to have a relationship with us, His servants, His creation. We are only able to love deeply, because we are loved deeply by Him. And the deeper our love for God the more we truly love what He loves: people, His Word, prayer, the gospel, our enemies and our joyful obedience. We leave a legacy for Christ when we prove our love by keeping His commands and loving those deserving *and* undeserving of our love because ***God is the ultimate LOVE***!

Heavenly father, we pray we diligently seek you and to become one with you, as we seek to leave long-lasting legacy in our lives. A legacy that is built in your love to Empower and Equip as we Engage and Serve your people individually and through our ministry. In Jesus name