

What does

**great friendship**

look like?



## **SCRIPTURE**

John 15:5-17

## **OVERVIEW**

On Sunday we were joined by guest speaker Phil Knox. Phil is an evangelism and missiology senior specialist at the Evangelical Alliance.

Speaking from John 15:5 - 17, Phil showed us that we are creatures that have been made for relational connection. Disconnection and loneliness, however, is rife in our society.

First and foremost, our most important relationship is our one with Jesus - who incredibly invites us into friendship with him. And it's from looking at Jesus that we learn what great friendship looks like:

## **1. Sacrificial**

True friendship requires sacrifice, as exemplified by Jesus laying his life down for his friends. Friendship will come at a personal cost, as we prioritise others' needs, be present with them and spend time with people we wouldn't normally spend time with

## **2. Intentional**

Maintaining a deep, intentional friendship with Jesus is essential. And similarly, we must also be intentional in our friendships.

## **3. Invitational**

Jesus' friendship is not exclusive but extends an invitation to everyone. As followers of Jesus, we are called to extend this friendship to others, helping them find hope and connection in Christ. This invitational aspect is crucial in a world searching for meaning and authenticity

## **QUESTIONS**

1. What are your best and worst qualities as a friend? What qualities do you admire most in a friend?
2. AW Tozer stated that 'What comes to our mind when we think about God is the most important thing about us.' What comes to your mind when you think about God? What lenses in the Bible do you find helpful in this area? What are those that you perhaps don't place enough emphasis on?
3. If friendship with God is an important way in which God wants us to view our relationship with him, what can we learn from human relationships about how we

develop our friendship with God? E.g.  
spending time together...

4. Who are the friends who you would most like to see come to know Jesus? What might be your next step in encouraging them to do so?