



ABIDE Weekly Devotions: Week Seven

By B.J. Joyce

“You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.” **John 15:14-15**

At some point in your life you have heard of the magnificent, crime-fighting duo of Batman and Robin. References of these two have permeated pop culture and mainstream media via comic books, TV series, music, and movies since the 1940’s. The story goes that a young circus acrobat, Dick Grayson, witnesses the murder of his family during a circus act and Bruce Wayne, aka Batman, adopts the Grayson boy. Then Batman trains the boy up, gives him the name Robin, and helps Robin bring his family’s killer to justice.

Jesus says we are His friends if we do what He tells us to do. Dick Grayson became Robin because he did what Batman told him to do. Like us being open to knowing everything Jesus learned from the Father, Robin too was open to knowing everything from Batman. As his friend, Robin knew Batman's true identity as Bruce Wayne and learned how Wayne Enterprises, "the family business", worked. He had Batman's butler, Alfred, to attend to him. He got to use all the crime-fighting gadgets and technology Batman had. He even had a share of the Batcave! Ahh, to be friends with Batman. But even greater a treasure to be friends with Jesus! How much more awesome is it that we have as a friend the Creator of existence? That thought will have you saying, "Batman who?"

As his friends, Jesus shares everything with us. If we are truly His friends, it is not a burden to do as He commands, but a joy and a duty that brings honor to God and his creation. Batman allowed Robin to share in all that he had and knew in a close working, emotional, and legacy friendship. Similarly to these caped crusaders, it is you and me who need to do what Jesus tells us and be more like Him. We should be sharing in an intimate relationship with Christ as a close friend learning, growing, feeling, and acting as He would.

Have you told your friends to do something and they didn't? How did you feel? How do you think Jesus feels when we don't do what he tells us?

Lord, we pray that you help us to follow your commands with a cheerful heart. Help us to honor you in our actions and in our hearts as we demonstrate our love for you in our daily lives.

Jesus commands us to love Him and love all His creation.

