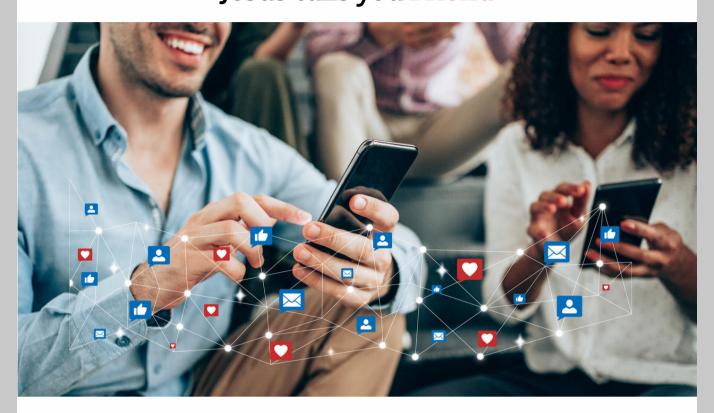




"I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you."

-NIV

Jesus calls you Friend



Subscribers, viewers, likes, followers, and fans; these are all terms and phrases that highlight our times. In our world, many eagerly seek people who will **subscribe** to their channel, increase their **view** count, **follow** their news feed updates, and be exclusive **fans** of their pages. The advent of the internet, combined with cellphone technology, and powered by social media software platforms, all create a perfect storm in which each individual is made to feel like the center of the universe. But are we really the center of the universe -- and should we be?

In our verse of the day, as Jesus prepares for the cross, He makes a point to inform His disciples about a change in their relationship status. Jesus tells them, "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." The disciples first saw themselves as servants of Jesus -- individuals simply following orders without knowing what was going on. But now with the status change in their relationship with Jesus, from servant to friend, they now received the privilege of learning from Jesus everything that He had learned from God. In order for this privileged access to God the Father to continue after the crucifixion, Jesus would send the Holy Spirit who would continue to post, share, and broadcast the plans, and illuminate God's truth to the body of Christ.

Wow! Isn't it amazing to know that as friends of God we have fantastic access to learn what God is doing through the Holy Spirit. The spirit of Jesus freely shares with us, but we may often get too occupied being concerned with what others are doing. We subscribe, view, like, follow, and are fans of the world and its carnal content; forgetting that the one who loves us the most has freely given us access and desires to share with us what He is doing. God wants our attention, yet we have it directed elsewhere -- Netflix, Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, etc. Therefore it is no surprise that we often miss out when God wants to do something new in our life because our focus is elsewhere.

Let us **subscribe** to the Holy Spirit's indwelling power, be daily **viewers** of the WORD of God, and be **followers** of Jesus -- forsaking fandom in this world and demonstrating **friendship** to Christ.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Jesus is not a fair-weather fan like those of the world who come and go, but He is the only friend who grants us privileged SSL (secured, sustained & living) access to God the Father.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, thank you for changing my status from servant to friend. Father, there are a lot of Godly content online, and everything on the internet is not bad. There are sermons on YouTube, and Facebook groups for ministry, and messaging platforms can allow us to quickly encourage others. Yet Father, you still desire us to spend regular undistracted time alone with you, away from everyone and everything. Help me Father to be a victor(one who makes things happen through conquest) and not a voyeur(one who views things happening). In Jesus' name I pray amen.

Your brother in Christ, WNL

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