

# RECOVERING BIBLICAL FRIENDSHIP

**BACK** to the BASICS series at Harbour Shores Church

**Sermon Title:** *Recovering Biblical Friendship: Design & Deficiencies*

**Scripture:** John 15:12-17, et al

Pastor Stephen Schultze / Sunday, August 28, 2022

*"This world is full of sorrow because it is full of sin.... It is a dark place. It is a lonely place. It is a disappointing place. The brightest sunbeam in it is a friend.*

***Friendship halves our troubles and doubles our joys."*** J.C.Ryle

- **By the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Creator, friendship is intended to bring wholeness & delight.**
  - *Genesis 2:18, 23-24; 1 John 1:7*
  
- **The greatest commandment calls us to loving \_\_\_\_\_ with God and one another.**
  - *John 15:12, 17; Matthew 22:37-39*
  
- **The greatest relationship is described in terms of intimate \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - *John 15:13-15; James 4:4; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12*
  
- **The greatest friendship is expressed in the ultimate \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - *John 15:13; Proverbs 27:9-10; 17:17; 18:24*

## **Destructive deficiencies and distractions:**

- Lack of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Lack of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Lack of shared \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Questions to Consider:**

1. *Why is it so important to understand that God solved the aloneness problem before the fall?*
2. *How did the fall bring destruction and division to friendship?*
3. *In what ways do friendships "halve our troubles and double our joys?"*
4. *How have we hollowed the meaning of friendship? How does this affect our view of our relationship with God?*
5. *How does the Gospel free us to be better, more transparent and more selfless friends?*
6. *What are some areas which especially create deficiencies in your friendships?*