

# RECOVERING BIBLICAL FRIENDSHIP

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

**Sermon Title:** *Recovering Biblical Friendship: The Greatest Friend*

**Scripture:** Matthew 11:19, et al

Stephen Schultze / Sunday, September 25, 2022

The failure of human friendship leaves us longing for better friendship...for \_\_\_\_\_.

*“a friend of tax collectors and sinners!”* Matthew 11:19

**What is the Proof of Christ’s Friendship?** (John 15:13-15; Romans 5:6–8)

Jesus Is clearly the Greatest Friend because He has gone the \_\_\_\_\_ to befriend the greatest sinners.

**What is the Nature of Christ’s Friendship?**

- **The Greatest** \_\_\_\_\_ (John 15:9-10; Romans 8:31-32)
- **The Greatest** \_\_\_\_\_ (John 15:10; John 17:7-10)
- **The Greatest** \_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrews 4:15-16; Matthew 6:26, 32)
- **The Greatest** \_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrews 13:8)
- **The Greatest** \_\_\_\_\_ (Revelation 1:17-18; Psalms 118:6)
- **The Greatest** \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Timothy 1:15)

**How Can We Enjoy Christ’s Friendship?**

- **Be** \_\_\_\_\_ **to God.** (2 Corinthians 5:20; Matthew 7:13-14)
- **Be devoted to** \_\_\_\_\_ **with Jesus Christ.** (Revelation 3:20; 2 Peter 3:18)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Jesus and live in faithful obedience.** (John 15:14)
- **Let your relationship with Jesus** \_\_\_\_\_ **your relationships with others.** (1 John 4:19-21)

**Questions to Consider:**

- *How do you respond when your earthly relationships disappoint you? What does this tell you about your expectations and your heart?*
- *The Jews called Jesus “a friend of sinners” in a derogatory manner. In what ways is it, in fact, joyous news for us?*
- *In what ways has Christ “gone the distance” for friendship with us? What response does that provoke in your heart and mind?*
- *How does the nature of Christ’s friendship draw you in and lead you to worship?*
- *In what ways are you growing to enjoy Christ’s friendship?*