

1 Peter 2:9-10 (GW) ⁹ However, you are chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, people who belong to God. You were chosen to tell about the excellent qualities of God, who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not God's people, but now you are. Once you were not shown mercy, but now you have been shown mercy.

20) Who is Peter writing to?

21) What does he call us?

22) Who did the choosing? Why?

23) Based on this study, how should you think about prayer?

24) How does this help you in prayer life?

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Proverbs 17:17 (GW) ¹⁷ A friend always loves, and a brother is born to share trouble.

1) How many friends like this do you have?

2) How is Jesus this type of friend?

John 11:18-19 (GW) ¹⁸ "John came neither eating nor drinking, and people say, 'There's a demon in him!'" ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and people say, 'Look at him! He's a glutton and a drunk, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' "Yet, wisdom is proved right by its actions."

3) What did people say about John the Baptist? Was it true?

4) What did people say about Jesus? Was it true?

5) What does this mean for you and me today?

Luke 11:5-10 (GW) ⁵ Jesus said to his disciples, "Suppose one of you has a friend. Suppose you go to him at midnight and say, 'Friend, let me borrow three loaves of bread.' ⁶ A friend of mine on a trip has dropped in on me, and I don't have anything to serve him.' ⁷ Your friend might answer you from inside his house, 'Don't bother me! The door is already locked, and my children are in bed. I can't get up to give you anything.' ⁸ I can guarantee that although he doesn't want to get up to give you anything, he will get up and give you whatever you need because he is your friend and because you were so bold.

⁹“So I tell you to ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰Everyone who asks will receive. The one who searches will find, and for the person who knocks, the door will be opened.

6) What does this story have to do with prayer?

7) What does this tell us about our relationship with God?

8) What does searching, knocking and asking have to do with prayer?

9) What is the promise in this passage?

John 15:12-13 (GW) ¹²Love each other as I have loved you. This is what I’m commanding you to do. ¹³The greatest love you can show is to give your life for your friends.

10) How did Jesus love his disciples? Us?

John 15:14 (GW) ¹⁴You are my friends if you obey my commandments.

11) What shows that we are Jesus’ friends?

12) What does Jesus command?

Matthew 22³⁷⁻³⁹ (GW) ³⁷Jesus answered him, “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the greatest and most important commandment. ³⁹The second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself.’

13) What is the greatest commandment?

14) What is the second greatest?

15) How do these two relate to the Ten Commandments?

John 15:15 (GW) ¹⁵I don’t call you servants anymore, because a servant doesn’t know what his master is doing. But I’ve called you friends because I’ve made known to you everything that I’ve heard from my Father.

16) Why are the disciples no longer called servants?

17) Where do we find what Jesus has made known?

18) Did Jesus make this known to us? If so, what does that make us?

John 15:16 (GW) ¹⁶You didn’t choose me, but I chose you. I have appointed you to go, to produce fruit that will last, and to ask the Father in my name to give you whatever you ask for.

19) What is the difference between choosing Jesus and being chosen by Jesus?