

FRIENDSHIP AND INTIMACY WITH GOD

Introduction: What we need from other people.

1. We want people to _____ us.
2. We want people to _____ us.
3. We want people to _____ us.
4. We want people to _____ to us.
5. We want people to _____ us.

John 15: 12-16 (NIV) ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

FOUR TESTS OF FRIENDSHIP

TEST #1: What you will _____ for a friend.

John 15:13 (NIV) ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

TEST #2: What you will _____ with a friend.

John 15:15 (NIV) ¹⁵ 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.

TEST #3: What you _____, your friend _____.

John 15:11 (NIV) ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

TEST #4: You want to _____ your friend.

John 15:14 (NIV) ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command.

FIVE MYTHS AMERICANS BELIEVE ABOUT KNOWING GOD

1. **The good _____ myth. (LIE)**
 - This is the notion where activity in Christian service proves that I know God.
2. **The good _____ myth. (LIE)**
 - This is the notion where regular church attendance earns God's favor and make me right with God.
3. **The good _____ myth. (LIE)**
 - This is the notion where praying every day and sharing in religious things indicates that I know God.
4. **The good _____ myth. (LIE)**
 - This is the notion that believes if I feel close to God, then I must be close to God.

5. The good _____ myth. (LIE)

- This is the notion where a good knowledge of the Bible means that I am a Christian.

TWO APPLICATIONS

1 John 3:1 (NIV) ¹ See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

1. God _____ you.
2. God _____ for you.