



A Cup of Blessings

Devotionals Provided by Sisters in the Spirit Ministries, Inc.

You Are My Friend

By Minister Dr. Katrina White Brown

Today's Cup of Blessing is being poured by the disciple John, especially for those who are longing for friendship. In chapter 15 of the New Testament book that bears John's name, he records these words of Jesus: "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. 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. This is my command: Love each other." (John 15:15-17)

Jesus described love in terms of friendships. Throughout the Bible, friendships are used to reinforce life lessons about God's faithfulness and righteousness. For example, the friendship and love shared between David and Johnathan transcended the hatred Johnathan's father Saul had for David. While Saul fought fiercely against David, Johnathan was just as fiercely determined to fight for him. They had a friendship that can best be described as a covenant of love, and it lasted a lifetime. But David and Johnathan's bond was more than a friendship – they were as brothers. Their relationship was described in Proverbs 18:24 - "a real friend sticks closer than a brother."

When Jesus describes us as friends, it's a testimony of the great love He has for us. Jesus said that "there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.' Christ's love manifests as selfless and limitless. He loved us enough to give His life for us. And even though He is Lord and Master and could rightfully call us His servants, instead He chooses to call us friends.

In the song *I Am A Friend of God*, the writer wondered "who am I that you are mindful of me; that you hear me, when I call. Is it true that you are thinking of me; how you love me, it's amazing." In Jesus we have a faithful friend forever; this fills our cup to overflowing.

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Christian women to walk in their purpose for the Lord.