



BAPTIST CHURCH

**You Can Do Nothing Without Me**  
**“Jesus Gives Us Power To Love Others Part 2”**  
**John 15:9-17**

**Introduction**

In **John 15** we learn Jesus gives us life changing power.

Jesus gives us power to:

**Produce Fruit**

**Love Others**

**Endure Persecution**

**Receive the Comforter**

**Four expectations for those who remain in His love:**

When we remain in His love:

**1. Our joy is made complete v.11**

**2. We love others as Jesus loves us v.12, v.17**

**Scripture**

As the Father has loved me, I have also loved you. Remain in my love.

10 If you keep my commands you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love.

11 “I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.

12 “This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you.

13 No one has greater love than this: to lay down his life for his friends.

14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.

15 I do not call you servants anymore, because a servant doesn't know what his master, is doing. I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have heard from my Father.

16 You did not choose me, but I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce fruit and that your fruit should remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you.

17 "This is what I command you: Love one another." CSB

## Quote Of The Day

"Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort me and restore me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger." — St. Patrick

When we remain in His love:

### **3. We are called His friends vv.13-15**

"No one has greater love than this: to lay down his life for his friends.

14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 I do not call you servants anymore, because a servant doesn't know what his master, is doing. I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have heard from my Father." CSB

When I was five years old I learned what a good friend is.

**Terry Baker Illustration**— we are friends to this day.

I have also learned who is my greatest friend!

**Jesus is the greatest friend**—He gave His life on the cross to pay the once and for all payment for sin.

Every person in this room, watching online, every person in the world is either a Friend or Enemy of Jesus.

**A Friend of Jesus**— Those who obey the Word and Will of God.

The word translated “**friend**” comes from the Greek word “**Philos**” meaning to have special interest in someone, to love, to be devoted to, to be kindly disposed to another.

Those who are declared “**Friends of Jesus**” Obey His Word and Obey His Will. Every person who is a Friend of Jesus receives the blessings of God on our life now and in eternal life to come.

Aristotle defined “**Philos**” this way— “True friends are one soul inhabiting two bodies.”

In the article “He Thought He Knew Horses. Then He Learned to Really Listen,” in the New York Times Magazine— Sterry Butcher writes:

“Did you know horses have friends? They do, according to Butcher, who lives on a farm in Texas, horses form friendships with other horses and these friends stand nose to rump to swish flies from the other’s face with their tails. They’ll rake their teeth against the other’s withers or back, scratching places the other cannot reach on their own.

And not only do horses scratch each other’s back. They watch each other’s back. In the wild, horses spend the entirety of their lives within the eyesight of other horses. Even domestic horses, who don’t venture beyond their pasture, will take turns staying awake while others sleep. It’s like shifts on guard duty. Citation: Sterry Butcher, “He Thought He Knew Horses. Then He Learned to Really Listen,” New York Times Magazine (11/12/24)

What horses have is what we need. Every one of us needs a friend. Someone who will swish away the annoying biting flies that come toward us in life. Someone who will scratch our back, helping us with the things we can’t reach or do on our own. Someone who will stay awake and protect us from danger.

**What Everyone really needs is a relationship with Jesus— He is a true friend!**

**John 15:12-17 reveals why Jesus is a true friend.**

## Six Reasons Jesus Is A True Friend

### 1. Unconditional Love vv.12-13

“This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this: to lay down his life for his friends.” CSB

### 2. Clear Expectations v.14

“You are my friends if you do what I command you.” CSB

### 3. Companionship v.15a

**“I do not call you servants anymore, because a servant doesn’t know what his master, is doing. I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have heard from my Father.”** CSB

Once again, **“Philos”** means to have special interest in someone, to love someone, to be devoted, to be kindly disposed to another.

### 4. Transparency v.15b

“I do not call you servants anymore, because a servant doesn’t know what his master, is doing. I have called you friends, **because I have made known to you everything I have heard from my Father.**” CSB

### 5. Generosity v.16

“You did not choose me, but I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce fruit and that your fruit should remain, **so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you.**” CSB

### 6. Accountability v.17

“This is what I command you: Love one another.” CSB

**We will be judged by how we obey His commands and how we love others.**

Just as there are Friends of Jesus there are also enemies of Jesus.

**An Enemy of Jesus— James 4:4** “. . . Don't you know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? So whoever wants to be the friend of the world becomes the enemy of God.” CSB

The word translated “**enemy**” comes from the Greek word “**Echthros**” meaning a person who rejects God's Word, God's Will, His Character and His Purpose.

**I John 2:15-17** “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride in one's possessions—is not from the Father, but is from the world. 17 And the world with its lust is passing away, **but the one who does the will of God remains forever.**” CSB

In **Matthew 6:24** Jesus clearly articulates the difference between those who love the world vs. those who love the Master “No one can serve two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” CSB

**The Blessing for those who are friends of God are overwhelming and beyond imagination in this life and in eternity.**

**Judgment is severe and eternal for those who are enemies of God.**

**Revelation 20:1-15** “Then I saw a great white throne and one seated on it. Earth and heaven fled from his presence, and no place was found for them. 12 I also saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged according to their works by what was written in the books. 13 Then the sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them; each one was judged according to their works. 14 Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And anyone whose name

was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.”  
CSB

**When that day comes, the day we must give an account of ourselves, everyone will want to be the friend of Jesus.**

When we remain in His love: Our joy is made complete,  
We love others as Jesus loves us, We are called His friends:

When we remain in His love:

#### **4. We will receive what we need to accomplish His Will v.16**

**“You did not choose me, but I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce fruit and that your fruit should remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you.” CSB**

Jesus has **“appointed”** His friends to go out and Produce Fruit.

The word translated **“appointed”** comes from the Greek word **“Tithemi”** meaning to equip, to furnish and assign someone to a particular task or role.

We are called, equipped, furnished with everything we will need, and assigned to glorify God in our body by producing Spiritual Fruit.

**When we seek to love others well, when we seek to love others as Jesus loved others, we will receive everything we need to lead to Produce Spiritual Fruit!**

**What would we do in this life to glorify God if we knew we could not fail?**

**What would we do in this life to advance the Kingdom of God on the earth if we knew we could not fail?**

There has never been a time when God has not equipped us or provided the resources to accomplish the ministry He has called to.

### **Jesus provided a coin in the mouth of a fish to pay the Temple Tax**

**Matthew 17:24-27** “When they came to Capernaum, those who collected the temple tax approached Peter and said, “Doesn’t your teacher pay the temple tax?” 25 “Yes,” he said. When he went into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, “What do you think, Simon? From whom do earthly kings collect tariffs or taxes? From their sons or from strangers?”, 26 “From strangers,” he said. “Then the sons are free,” Jesus told him. 27 “But, so we won’t offend them, go to the sea, cast in a fishhook, and take the first fish that you catch. When you open its mouth you’ll find a coin. Take it and give it to them for me and you.” CSB

**The Lord provides opportunities for us to accomplish His Will, He calls us to the opportunities and He provides everything we will need to accomplish the task.**

**The Lord provided financial resources for Cary First to be on mission in Idaho. — prayer in the hotel room.**

**We glorify God when we Obey His commands and produce Spiritual Fruit!**

When we remain in His love:

- 1. Our joy is made complete**
- 2. We love others as Jesus loves us**
- 3. We are called His friends**
- 4. We will receive what we need to accomplish His Will**

