## God's Calling Requirements Friendship with God Part 22

"13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. 15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you." (John 15:13-15 KJV)

When Jesus said, "13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend," that does not mean that you give your life for your friends, but the truth is that Jesus gave his life for us because he is considering us His friends. Jesus truly died on the cross for our sins to save us and He is requesting us today to be His friends.

The friendship with Jesus and of Jesus is based on this command, "14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." Jesus would consider you His friend and His blood that he shed on the cross for your sins will cover your sins and saves you if you obey the commands of Jesus and His word and the voice of The Holy Spirit to you.

There are much privileges of having the friendship of God, "15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you." Friendship with God reveals to us and makes us know the things and the knowledge of God. To be a friend with God then you will be aware of what God is doing and you can analyze clearly the events in life.

Abraham our father in faith, cherish his friendship with God, "23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God." (James 2:23 KJV) Friendship with God is not like the friendship with people. God is everywhere and He is there all the time. People are not available in the places and in the time that you are in need.

"10 Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not; neither go into thy brother's house in the day of thy calamity: for better is a neighbour that is near than a brother far off." (Proverbs 27:10 KJV) What is said in this proverb that your friend and your father friend you should not forsake because in your calamities they are near to you and are better than your brother who is faraway. But whom can be nearer to you than God who is just prayer away. And who can be more faithful to you than Jesus and who can be more helpful to you than God being your friend.

God wants you to earn and be faithful to His friendship. For the disciples admonish that you need to have friendship with God and not to have friends in the world. He is a jealous God and He will act with anger and become furious if you favor people and friends over your friendship with Him. James, the writer of the book of James and the half brother of Jesus, emphasize about the friendship with God by condemning the friendship with the world: "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. 5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?" (James 4:4-5 KJV) When you makes friends with people and compromise with them and condone their sins because you think one day you will need them, that way of thinking and behavior will make God very angry with you. If you do that then you are forfeiting the privileges to be friend with God.

"But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend." (Isaiah 41:8 KJV) God here is speaking with Jacob whom He called to serve Him and He is reminding him that He is the friend of his grandfather Abraham. Based on the friendship of Abraham with God, the Lord here is calling Jacob to continue to serve Him. Your friendship with God today will pave the way for your children and descendants to be favored and called by God to serve Him.

"7 Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?" (2Chronicles 20:7 KJV) King Jehoshaphat when his land was invaded by the armies of the enemies, in his prayer he appealed to God that He had already given this land to them, the seed of Abraham, based on Abraham being the friend of God. Based on that, God intervened for them and gave them great victory over the three invaded armies. Abraham at that time long time was dead but His friendship to God was standing and his descendents were receiving privileges because Abraham their father was a friend with God.

Your friendship with God today and in your life on earth, will ultimately bring great blessings to your children, descendents and your disciples. People, relatives, neighbor and friends will not help your descendents but your friendship with God who lives forever and who is omnipotent and omnipresence will secure life and the future to them. The work of your hand cannot help them but your friendship with God can.

*"11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend." (Exodus 33:11a KJV)* Moses was also friend to God and He cherished His friendship with God. The value of the friendship that he had with God, the Lord was speaking to him face to face. When you are facing troubles and you don't know what to do, and when you want a council and got advice, you need answer and clear direction to go and move. You may have and got many friends but they will not be able to do what God can offer to you when He speaks clearly to you as His friend and face to face; they cannot satisfy you with an answer as God satisfy you.

*My dear and beloved:* Do not be worry if you don't have friends, because Jesus can go with you to any place and solve your problem. He may send you to certain people who will accomplish to you what you need, or He may go Himself and finish the matter to you and you don't need even to move. God's calling for you today is to have and to keep your friendship with Him. It will be done to you as you believe, as you agree to pray.

*My Prayer:* Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death to give me eternal life. Lord I understood well your word. I repent of my being friendly with the world and trusting the people favor. Lord I am coming back to you, I want you to be my friend. Cleanse me and build me according to your will. This is my prayer in Jesus name. Amen.



Share the message with a friend. For more spiritual enrichment please visit our website at: <u>www.churchofgoduae.com</u>