



Sermon  
Discussion  
Guide

Sunday, October 6, 2024

# Identity Check

## Friends of Jesus - John 15:12-17

### Read/Reflect

1. What characterizes friendship with Jesus (v.13-14)?
2. What criteria does Jesus give for calling His disciples His friends? In other words, what makes His disciples His friends (and not servants)?
3. Read John 13:1-20. How does Jesus demonstrate His love for His disciples? How might this be connected to Jesus “laying down” His life for His friends?
4. How does John 15:13 change or redefine your understanding of friendship?

### Explore

5. What does it mean that friendship with Jesus is not reciprocal? Why do you think it is important to keep in mind that friendship with Jesus is not reciprocal?
6. How would you describe the difference between friendship in the modern world and the friendship that Jesus describes?
7. What might be the way in which God is calling you to “lay down” your life for those in your life group and in the church?
8. What might be some obstacles that get in the way of loving those in your life group and in the church? What are practical steps that you could take to overcome such obstacles?

### Pray/Practice

- In the coming week, decide on one practical step that you could take to “lay down” your life to love those around you. If you’re comfortable sharing, share with your life group so that you could encourage one another and hold each other accountable to live it out.
- Remember Jesus’ promise to send the Helper (the Holy Spirit) has been fulfilled. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you how you could “lay down” your life to love those around you. Ask Him to help you live this out.