

July 18, 2020

Because God loves you, He Provides- Part 40

Did you know that God loves you more than anyone else could ever love you?

God proves His love to you by providing **His friendship.** John 15:15, “*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.*”

The Greek word here for **friend** is ***philous*** which means dearly beloved. The city of Philadelphia is known as the city of brotherly love. This kind of love puts others before itself. Jesus told His disciples that they were no longer serving Him, but serving with Him. There is a big difference. Many people try to serve God to somehow please Him and try to win His affection. God already loves you, and He is pleased to share His love with you unconditionally. We cannot win His approval or somehow work our way into His affection. He loves us and especially when we choose to join Him in the task of telling others about His great love and salvation.

The interesting thing here is that just two verses prior, Jesus had made this significant statement: John 15:13, “***Greater love has no one than this: that he would lay down his life for his friends.***” Jesus spoke this and then He did this. He gave His life for you and for me. He calls you His friend. Prov. 18:24, “***A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a Friend Who sticks closer than a brother.***”

Again, I turn to an old hymn that says it so purely, *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

*What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
And what a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer
Oh, what peace we often forfeit
Oh, what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer
Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer*

Dear Father, thank You for calling me Your friend. I know that You laid down your life for me and there is no greater love than that. What an amazing love. Thank You Jesus, for Your friendship! In Jesus Name, Amen