

I'll Be A Friend To Jesus

John 15:14

Purpose: To show the importance of obedience in our relationship with God and Jesus.



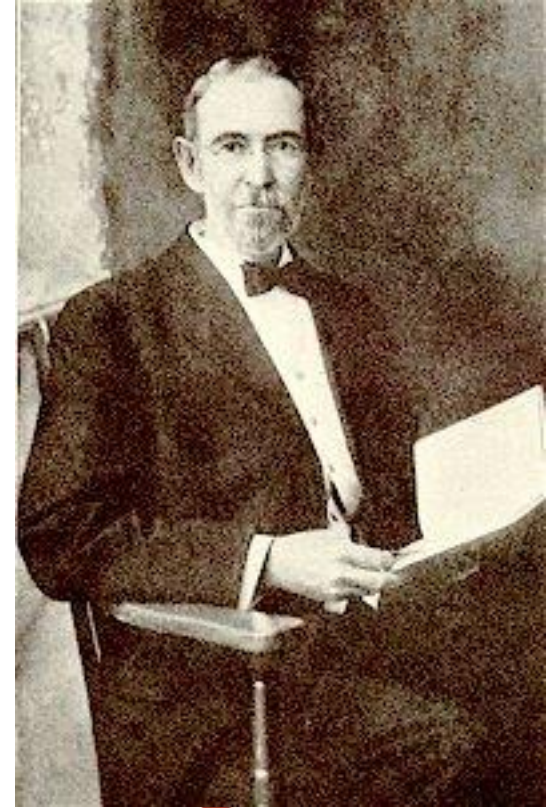
Introduction

- What does it mean to be a friend to Jesus?
- Our text, John 15:14, sets the condition of obedience in order to be a friend of Jesus.
- Love, joy, obedience, sacrifice and friendship are all included in John 15:9-14.
- Are you a friend to Jesus?



The Song

- The song, “I’ll Be A Friend To Jesus,” (1922, public domain) was written by Johnson Oatman, Jr. (1856-1922). He wrote the lyrics to 5,000 hymns including “Count Your Blessings,” “No Not One” and “Higher Ground.”



Verse 1: Friendship is needed

- They tried my Lord and Master,
With no one to defend;
Within the halls of Pilate
He stood without a friend.
- We are disappointed when friends fail us.
- Judas betrayed. Peter denied. They all scattered. Where were the friends?



Verse 2: Friendship is difficult

- The world may turn against Him,
I'll love Him to the end.
And while on earth I'm living.
My Lord shall have a friend.
- Peter and others were willing to die rather than deny. But they fled. Matt. 26:31-35.
- Jesus knows we can recover from failures.
Luke 22:31-32.



Verse 3: Friendship is demonstrated

- I'll do what He may bid me;
I'll go where He may send;
I'll try each flying moment.
To prove that I'm His friend.
- Abraham is a "friend of God," a model for us.
Gen. 12:1-5; 22:1-14; Jas. 2:21-26; Heb. 11:8-10, 17-19. Willing to move, to sacrifice.



Verse 4: Friendship is shared

- To all who need a Savior,
My Friend I'll recommend;
Because He brought salvation,
Is why I am His friend.
- Make disciples and teach them to observe all things. Matt. 28:18-20.
- How can we be His friend and not share Him?



Refrain: Friendship is forever

- I'll be a friend to Jesus,
My life for Him I'll spend;
I'll be a friend to Jesus,
Until my years shall end.
- Are you willing to serve Jesus for your life?
- Persecutions arise, some leave Christ, some stay.
- Rev. 2:10. Faithful until death.



Conclusion

- “But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother” Proverbs 18:24b.
- Stick close to Jesus in your life.
 - Listen to the Lord’s will from the Bible.
 - Pray constantly. Keep communication open.
 - Worship with purpose and sincerity.
 - Build up His people around you.



And.....



Be A Friend To Jesus

