

LIVING AN AUTHENTIC LIFE

Trustworthy Friend **John 15.12-15**

1. You can choose your friends, but you can't choose your family. We have probably all said that. When was the last time you said it and why?
2. Read Proverbs 17.17 and 18.24. Do you have "a friend who sticks closer than a brother"? What qualities are required for you to consider them that kind of friend?
3. If abiding means staying close enough to Jesus that his life becomes evident in yours, how are you doing at abiding right now? Which word best describes what it means to abide to you? Dwell? Marinate? Deeper still? Something else?
4. How is love the distinguishing mark of an authentic disciple? What does this look like in the life of a follower of Jesus?
5. How is v12 different from the Great Commandment in Matt 22.37-40? What does it mean to "love one another as I have loved you"? How can you love someone sacrificially this week?
6. According to v13 which takes more love, to love a friend or to love an enemy? Why? How can you love someone selflessly this week?
7. Does v14 imply that friendship with Jesus is contingent on our obedience? Explain. How can v15 clarify your answer? How is Jesus inviting us into a relationship here? How can you intentionally invest in someone's life this week?
8. Revisit your answer to Question 2. Is that person still a trustworthy friend? Are you?
9. How would your current friendships be different if you were a friend like Jesus? Would it be easier for you to make new friends if you were a friend like Jesus? How would this teaching help you with family drama?
10. We are three weeks in. What are you doing differently with this series?