

# ARE YOU A FRIEND OF GOD?

**By Evelyn Timmons**

**October 28, 2013**

**© 2013 CCI Publishing**

**ALL RIGHTS RESERVED**

A few weeks ago I was in a church service and the minister was ministering the word. He told the people repeatedly that God was on their side. I know that God is on our side, he is so dedicated to being on our side that he was willing to give his Son as our ransom. But as I sat there every time he would make that statement I would hear in my spirit but are you on Gods side? My spirit was disturbed. Whenever we sing the song, "I am a Friend of God" again, my spirit is always disturbed. It is important to understand that just because we are born again it doesn't make you a friend of God and just because God is on our side doesn't mean we are on God's side; Just as being born again does not make us a servant of God. You must qualify to be Gods friend, his servant or to be on his side all require something from us.

It should be the desire of every born-again person to qualify themselves in each of these three categories I mentioned. Most people don't even realize that there is a qualification.

My husband ministered a message once titled, "The Power of Relationship" (available in our bookstore). When he ministered this he asked the people, "Would God do something for one that he would not do for another? Or would God do something for me that he wouldn't do for you?" The immediate

response is NO! God is no respecter of persons. Acts 10:34 does say, Then Peter opened his mouth and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons. True, God is no respecter of persons. He will take all who come to him with a heart of repentance. But, he is a respecter of RELATIONSHIP. Someone who is obedient to God, who is intimate with him through the Word and prayer will move the heart and hand of God in a way that someone who doesn't have the same relationship with him never can. Think about it in this way. Say you have a number of children; The eldest is very obedient, listens to your direction and is very loving toward you, the middle child loves you but doesn't have time for you and the youngest is stubborn and rebellious. Do you have a different relationship with each of them? Yes, of course. Each of these children came into the family through the parents the same way but the standing each of them have in the parent's heart is based on relationship – the effort they each put into building a relationship with the parents. It is the same in the family of God. God will do something for one that he will not do for another because of relationship.

Now, with these things in mind let's look at some of the qualifications for being a friend of God. Do you think that just because you have been born into the family of God through the blood of Jesus that you are God's friend? Very few people in the Word of God are actually called friends of God. Abraham was called the friend of God. James 2:23 says, And the scripture was fulfilled which says, Abraham believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness, and he was called the friend of God. Study Abraham's life and you will see the Abraham was an extraordinary man. He chose to believe God when everything around him was saying something different. He chose to follow God even when it meant leaving his home and going into a strange land, when it meant offering up that which he loved so much; His son. Think about it – Abraham held nothing back, he was obedient to the point of costing him his son. He trusted God and God knew he could trust Abraham. Can the Lord trust you? John 15:14,15 tells us, "You are my friends if (big if there) you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends for all things that I have heard from my father I have made known to you." So you see, in

order to qualify as God's friend first you have to be his servant, be obedient to the Lord not in word but in deed. Second you have to be intimate with the Lord. You have to spend time in the Word of God and prayer so that you will know the voice of the Lord and know what he is doing.

The body of Christ has been preached grace for so many years that many have forgotten that the Lord requires us to be accountable. If you live a life of sin Heaven will not be your eternal home. We are under a covenant of grace – that grace provides forgiveness through the blood of Jesus when we fall or fail. But, if we are born-again we will desire to serve the Lord, we will desire to please him. His forgiveness is there but that does not mean that you have no part in the covenant. A covenant is two sided. We know what Jesus gave, he gave everything so that we could become the children of God. But what are we to give into this covenant relationship? We are to give our love to him, our loyalty, our obedience. We are to become servants, to take up our cross and follow Him. We will serve His desire, His purpose, His will, His plan, we will serve Him. [John 12:24-26, Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies it remains alone, but if it dies it will produce much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, let him follow me and where I am there my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, him will my father honor.](#) Being a servant can be summed up like this – a true servant does not spend his time and effort thinking about himself or his own needs but rather spends his time and effort thinking about his master and his master's needs. It's about where your focus is.

[James 4:4 tells us that the friendship of the world is enmity with God and that if we are a friend of the world we are the enemy of God.](#) The world says that the murder of children in the womb is ok, it says that homosexuality and other immorality is ok. For years the world has said, do your own thing, do what feels good. The Word of God gives us a very clear picture of how God feels about these things. Are you on God's side or are you on the world's side?

Are you a servant of God? Are you a friend of God? Are you on God's side? All who have received Jesus as savior are born into the Kingdom of God as

children. God's desire for us is not that we stay children tossed to and fro with every wind but that we become servants of God, friends of God and last of all champions of God who are on His side. This sick, perverted, dying world is waiting for a true demonstration from the people of God. What will they see in you? Will it be the world, will they see a child or will it be a servant, a friend of God and a champion for this day and time? You are the one who decides.