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Have you ever had a good friend that you wished could be part of your family? That doesn't often work out in the physical world, but it can in the spiritual. You see, you can not only claim Jesus as your friend, but He can be your brother as well! Isn't that a thrilling thought – that you could claim Jesus as your brother? Here's how, in Jesus' own words: "Whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother" (Mt. 12:50). Notice again the conditional promise: "whosoever shall do the will of my Father...the same is my brother and sister..."

The message is clear: in spite of what the majority of the religious world teaches, such things as "faith only" salvation, "once saved always saved," etc. "Do" in Mt. 12:50 translates the Greek word, "hodos," which means, "a traveler's journey; a manner of thinking or deciding." It means a continuous action – we must always strive to do what the Savior commands. We must always strive to do

the will of the Father. Then, and only then, can we enjoy friendship with Christ and be part of His family.

Dear Reader, have you been made part of God's family through obedience? If not, why not? Give it some thought.

Calendar

July 16—Bible Study 10 am
Tom

July 16—Worship 11 am & 6 pm
Speaker: Mark

July 16—a. Gary & Cindy

July 17—b. Myron

July 17-28—Tent Revival at High
land County church of

Christ 7 pm

July 19—Bible Study 7 pm
Tom

July 21—Friday Night Sing-Medina

Answer to the Puzzle:

Hidden Phrase: You are My friends
if you do whatever I command you.

Behavior is a mirror in which we show our image.

Church of Christ

128 Maple Avenue
Chardon, Ohio 44024
440-286-5505

Chardonchurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services:

Worship Services
Sunday: 11:00 a.m.
and 6:00 p.m.

Bible Study
Sunday: 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Chardon Church of Christ

Church Bulletin

Sunday

July 16, 2017

Love and Joy Perfected

By R.W. McAllister

Friends are such a blessing. When we need a "shoulder to cry on," as the expression goes, a good friend is often the one to whom we turn. When we need to be cheered up, a good friend is often just the person for the job. Good friends aren't afraid to tell us when we're about to make the biggest mistake of our lives, and they continue to love us even if we do. The wise man wrote, "A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity" (Prov. 17:17), and again, "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother" (Prov. 18:24).

A true friend loves in adversity as well as in prosperity. Such is not a "fair-weather friend" and it often it takes hard times to show us which friends are genuinely loyal. D. L. Moody says, "A true friend is like ivy—the greater the ruin, the closer he clings."

As Prov. 18:24 points out, gaining friends is dependent upon demonstrating friendliness toward others. He who will be a friend will always meet others eager to reciprocate an attitude of friendliness. Friends, however, will sometimes desert or fail you in the time of need. This reality shouldn't depress us, for there are true friends (Pr. 17:17) whose commitments will never waver. The true friend is rare, and his devotion often surpasses that of a blood-brother.

Jesus Christ is such a friend. His devotion to you surpasses that of any blood relative or earthly friend. He was willing to go to Calvary and be nailed to a tree and shed His blood to cover your sins. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). Jesus is your friend. The question is: are you His?

Every friendship must have a foundation, be it common interests, a shared profession, etc. The foundation for friendship with Jesus is obedience. "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you" (Jn. 15:14). Have you obeyed His commands? Have you shunned man-made religious teachings for the pure truth of the Bible? Have you responded in obedience to the ordinance of baptism for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38)? "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." We mustn't ignore the conditional nature of this promise of friendship with Jesus.

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Sunday Worship Services, July 16, 2017

Greetings and Announcements	Mark
Song Leader	Mark
Hymn	Jesus Is All The World To Me—204
Opening Prayer	(Please Stand) Ray
Hymn	I'll Be A Friend—208
Scripture Reading	(John 15:9-17) Dale
Hymn	In Remembrance—295
Lord's Supper.	Larry & Ron
Hymn	I'll Be A Friend—208
Sermon	Mark
Invitational Hymn	(Please Stand) Take My Life, and Let It Be—100
Hymn	We Shall See the King Some Day—6
Closing Prayer.	(Please Stand) Robert

Prayer List

- *Ray M. had a stress test last week and will begin cardiac therapy soon.
- *Susan's brother-in-law, Bobby, has colon cancer.
- *Tom & Nina will be on vacation for the next two weeks.
- *Juanita's son, Ron, and her daughter, Debbie.
- *Dale, his mother, and his cousins Reginald and Cartrell.
- *David, Doreen and their family.
- *Ruth (arthritis), and her brother George.
- *Ron & Pat's great grandson Bryan, and Ron's brother Gerald.
- *Rebecca, Ray and their son Steven, and other members of the family.
- *Our Congregation and Our Nation.
- *Our Veterans and their families.

Things to Remember

Chardon Website:
Chardonchurchofchrist.org

Business Meeting is held the 1st Sunday of each month following morning worship.

Potluck Luncheon is held the 2nd Sunday of each month following morning worship.

The link to **Gospel Broadcasting Network** is www.gbntv.org.

Church of Christ Radio can be listened to at 880 WRFD.

Information for the bulletin should be sent before Friday of each week. Call Mark or Nina or use e-mail address: Church_of_Christ@roadrunner.com

Love and Joy Perfected Solution

John 15:9-17

ABIDE	ANOTHER	APPOINTED
CALLED	CHOOSE	COMMANDMENTS
DOING	FATHER	FRIENDS
FRUIT	GREATER	HEARD
KNOWN	LONGER	LOVED
MASTER	REMAIN	SERVANTS
SHOULD	SPOKEN	THESE
THINGS	WHATEVER	

C R W D E L L A C Y O U A R L
R O E H D R A E H E M Y S F O
E N M T A R I E N D S H I S V
T E F M S T R E G N O L E Y E
A K O U A A E D E U O R W S D
E O H A T N M V L S V R E G A
R P G N I O D D E A E E V N T
G S A B I D E M N R E H O I I
R A P P O I N T E D I T T H U
F R I E N D S S C N H A O T R
M M A W N D O Y O E T F U B F
L W O Z Z O U Z R R G S B Z J
K N J Z H W R O T W V X T F C
K C B C N Q O B X T Q U D Y M
R E M A I N A A T C J U C G Q

Hidden Phrase: _____

