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Are You A Friend Of Sinners?

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TITLE: ARE YOU A FRIEND OF SINNERS????

NOTE: Mike provides Sunday morning "work sheets" with his sermons. Many fill in the blanks. Interesting! Educating! Makes the time go by faster and helps you know: "How much longer!"

TONIGHT: Want you to write the answers to our questions on the BLACKBOARD.... of your MIND! Will involve you in the study more and make the time FLY BY RAPIDLY!

I. TITLE: "Are you a friend of sinners?" brings confusion to some. 1. Wonder: SHOULD I BE?
   2. WHY? should I be? 3. Would the Lord want me to be? Puzzling!!
   4. How can I be a friend of sinners and KEEP myself pure in heart & life?
   5. CAN I be a loyal friend to Jesus and a loyal-friend to sinners at the same time?
   OR: Do I have to make a CHOICE? ONE OR THE OTHER?

ANSWER: COL. 3:17. You can do ANYTHING you can do "in the name of" (by the authority of Jesus) Do you agree????

II. THIS LEADS TO THE QUESTION: "WAS JESUS A FRIEND OF SINNERS?"

   A. This question requires a clear understanding of the three NOUNS in the question:

   2. FRIEND: GREEK: One loved. One held dear. One we feel friendly toward.

      Can we do any of these three things and be PLEASING TO our Lord?

      Now: 3 questions: 1. Did Jesus LOVE the lost?
   2. Did Jesus hold the lost as dear to His Father in heaven?
   3. Did Jesus have a friendly disposition toward the lost?

   #4 question? Would Col. 3:17 apply here? Do all in His name? Be like Him??

   3. SINNERS: I John 3:4: Transgression of His Law-Word: "Overstep the line".
   Rom. 3:23: Missing the mark. (Archery). We all have sinned!
   Jas. 5:17: FAILURE to do the right. To him that knoweth....

      Modern man: Psychology. My teacher. "The word SIN is no longer in our social vocabulary! The idea of right or wrong will not be tolerated in this class. FROM NOW ON: We will speak of what is good-for-us or what-is-not good-for-us."

      Note: LeGard Smith: last Wed. night's tape on Homosexuality: "SIN is the perversion of God's Spiritual ORDER of the Universe". We become PERVERTS too, when we violate any of God's laws-like: Lying, cheating, stealing, gossiping, envying, hating or coveting.

5-24-95
III. NOTE: Some modifications regarding Christ's LOVE FOR SINNERS:

1. JESUS never loved Satan, Sin nor any UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.  
   John 3:16.  

2. JESUS always loved all Sinners.  
   John 3:16.  

3. JESUS never compromised the Truth of God nor God's MORAL STANDARD - never!!
4. JESUS never REFUSED to HELP a sinner turn from Sin and to the Heavenly Father!
   Proof: Nicodemus, Woman at Well at Sychar, Woman taken in adultery-John 8.

5. JESUS always expected His disciples to befriend SINNERS who would listen to the gospel.  
   Principle: John 17:15. IN world, but not OF the world. Above the world, so we can lift precious souls Heavenward!!!

IV. PURPOSE OF THIS SERMON???

Simple: We have a large list of newcomers to F. W. who need to KNOW we love them----sinner or saint!

PACKETS are ready for distribution - 10 calls each.

EASY-evangelism!!! Tell them we care about them and want to be of service to them. Leave door-hanger to be picked up in an hour OR FILL IN the information at the door.

WE HAVE GIFTS:
- A tract about WHAT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS !!!
- A leaflet about what the Southside church of Christ is all about.

GOAL: To get these calls made and returned to Jim Crouch by June 15th.

MISSION IS ACCOMPLISHED if we only leave the literature and the newcomer as a Friend of Jesus.

ABOUT TO SING AN INVITATION SONG: For those who have Spr. needs, only Jesus can FILL: Forgiveness of sins for the alien sinner. Repent! be BAPT.
Forgiveness of sins of Delinquent Bro. or Sis. Repent and PRAY!
Fellowship for newcomer-members of the Body of Christ. IDENTIFY.

Come now as we stand and sing our song !!!