

## ***“Intimacy With God”***

*“Now I tell you to love each other, as I have loved you. The greatest way to show love for friends is to die for them. And you are my friends, if you obey me. Servants don’t know what their master is doing, and so I don’t speak to you as my servants. I speak to you as my friends, and I have told you everything that my Father has told me. You did not choose me. I chose you and sent you out to produce fruit, the kind of fruit that will last. Then my Father will give you whatever you ask for in my name.”*

- John 15:12-16

### ***Four proofs or tests of an intimate relationship:***

#### **Test 1. What I will Do For My Friend?**

*“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”*

- John 15:13

#### **Test 2. What I will Share With My Friend?**

*“I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.”*

- John 15:15

#### **Test 3. Do I Love What My Friend Loves?**

<sup>12</sup>*“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>17</sup>This is my command: Love each other.”*

- John 15:12,17

#### **Test 4. Do I Want to Please My Friend?**

<sup>14</sup>*“You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last.”* - John 15:14,16

*God offers us an intimate relationship with Him,  
so why don’t more people experience it?*

## ***Five Myths People Have Believed About Knowing God:***

1. The Good Deed Myth.
  - This is the notion that doing good deeds proves that I know God.
2. The Good Life Myth.
  - This is the notion that being a “good person” earns God’s favour, and makes me right with Him.
3. The Religion Myth.
  - This is the notion that praying every day and sharing other such religious things indicate that I know God.
4. The Feeling Myth.
  - This is the notion that believes that if I *feel* close to God, then I must be.
5. The Knowledge Myth.
  - This is the notion that a good knowledge of the Bible means that I am a Christian.

### **Two Things I Know About God:**

1. God loves you even before you love Him.
2. God waits for you to receive Him.

### **Application:**

1. Are you believing the truth, or a myth, about your relationship with God?
2. Like any relationship, your relationship with God grows when you spend time with Him. Read His letter to you, the Bible.

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