

July 26

TODAY'S BIBLE STUDY & MEDITATION

KEY IDEAS: Do I recognize that God extends His love and friendship to people like me? Do I see myself as God sees me, as one to whom Christ has extended His love and friendship? Do I recognize my life is supposed to show the kind and love and friendship to others that the Lord has shown me?

1 **God is a friend of men** — *James 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.*

How does the fact that God befriends men defy the popular picture of Him?

What examples of God's friendship can I praise Him for?

2 **I am Christ's friend** — *John 15:15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.*

What does it make me realize to know that I am God's friend?

Why does Satan want us to think of ourselves only as Christ's slaves?

3 **I am to pursue a new lifestyle of affection toward other believers** — *Colossians 3:14 And above all these things [put on] charity, which is the bond of perfectness.*

What kinds of things can I do in order to show loving friendship to others?

In what ways does my life demonstrate loving friendship to other believers?

Spirit of Truth, how do you want to apply these verses in my life today?

OPTIONAL BIBLE READINGS

Morning: Acts 27:1-26

Evening: Psalms 40, 41, 42