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**WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE
IN JESUS**

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Inspiration

John 15:14-15 (NIV)
"You are my friends if you do what I command. 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".

You were made for friendship with God. God does not just want us to know about Him; He wants us to know Him and experience His friendship. Consider this: You are a friend of the whole Maker of Heaven and Earth. Jesus came to reveal the Master's business to us - what He wants, what He cares about, how He loves us, and how He wants us to obey Him, not as servants but as His children and friends. It is a privilege to be God's child and friend. Jesus revealed the Father's will to us, and He laid down His life for us after telling us that greater love has no one than to lay down his life for his friends, and that is exactly what He did. There is a hymn that says: "What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, o what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!"

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What Must We do?

John 15:9-11 (NIV)
9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

How does the knowledge that we are friends with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, reflect in our day-to-day life? How does this 'connection' with God translate into the life we live, in good and not-so-good times? Jesus summed up our response by saying we should remain in His love by keeping His commands, just as He kept the Father's. We must cultivate this friendship by desiring God more through communion with Him. May we stay in touch with Him through prayer and fellowship. May we choose to obey and love Him at all times.

Takeaway:
What a friend we have in Jesus. What a privilege to carry everything to Him in prayer. We continue in this friendship through obedience to His commands. Amen!

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