

Theme: Friendship

Title: "Good Friends"

Text: Colossians 1, 4

**MESSAGE OUTLINE**

**FRIENDS (INTRODUCTION)**

1. They are part of our everyday lives
2. We have friends from different places (school, tuition, church, etc)
3. We also have different types of friends
4. Good friends
  - a. They can bring much joy and encouragement
  - b. They can make a difference in our lives

**THE PERFECT EXAMPLE OF A FRIEND – THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**

1. Seen in the way He befriended the disciples
  - a. He reached out to them
  - b. Even though not many were willing to be friends with them (fishermen, tax collector, zealot)
2. Seen in the way He sought to help them grow
  - a. He taught them important truths
  - b. He corrected them when they were wrong
  - c. That they may bear fruit
3. Seen in the way He cared for them
  - a. He provided for their physical needs as they followed Him
  - b. He loved them to the end

**OTHER EXAMPLES OF GOOD FRIENDS**

1. Seen in the life of Paul as he wrote about them in his letters
  - a. These were inspired by the example of Christ in their own lives

- b. The way they were addressed by Paul
  - i. Affection
  - ii. Praise
  - iii. Identification (“fellow...”)
- 2. One example that was highlighted: Epaphras
  - a. He worked hard together with Paul as a faithful minister of Christ
  - b. He had a humble mindset of service towards God (“bondservant”)
  - c. He had a great heart for others
    - i. Laboring fervently in prayer
    - ii. Great zeal

#### **OUR OWN CHALLENGE**

- 1. To choose good friends
- 2. To be a good friend
  - a. Example of the Lord Jesus Christ
  - b. Example of Epaphras