

Friday Evening, Nov. 5
Keynote Assembly

7:00 p.m.
Auditorium

Jesus: My Friend..... Jay Lockhart

*“Jesus is all the world to me, my life, my joy, my all...He’s my friend.”
Everyone needs a friend, a true friend, a friend who is a constant companion and confidant. The close relationship that Mary, Martha and Lazarus had with Jesus is the close relationship that I can have with Him today.*

Introduction

1. Some of the greatest stories of history are about friendship.
 - a. David and Jonathan (1 Sam. 18:1-4; 19:1-7; 20:35-42)
 - b. Paul and Timothy (Phil. 2:19-22)
 - c. Damon and Pythias
 - d. Albrecht and Albert Durer and “The Praying Hands”
 - e. God and Abraham (Isa. 41:8)
 - f. God and Moses (Ex. 33:11)
 - g. Jesus and Martha, Mary, and Lazarus (John 11:1-5)
 - h. Jesus and the disciples (John 15:15)
2. The emphasis of this lesson: Jesus is my Friend!

I. Identifying Friendship

- A. To be loved (*ahab*, 2 Chron. 20:7; Isa. 41:8)
- B. To be present (*rea*, Ex. 33:11)
- C. To be loved, dear (*philos*, Jas. 2:23; John 11:11 and 11:5; John 15:13-15)
- D. To be known well, fond of, an intimate association (*friend*, Prov. 18:24)

II. Jesus Wants to Be My Friend

- A. He moves beyond Teacher and disciple, Master and servant, to Friend with friend (John 15:15).
- B. He initiates (John 15:16) – see John 6:44-45; Col. 1:21.
- C. He is a True Friend who:
 1. Loves (John 15:9).
 2. Brings Joy (John 15:11).
 3. Laid down His life (John 15:13).
 4. Mediates (1 Tim. 2:5).
 5. Makes intercession (Heb. 7:25).

6. Helps (Heb. 4:14-16; Heb. 2:18; Prov. 27:6). “A friend accepts us as we are and helps us become what we should be” (Unknown).
7. Is ever present (Heb. 13:5).

III. Jesus Is My Friend

- A. When I abide in His love (John 15:9).
- B. When I obey Him (John 15:10, 14; John 14:23-24).
- C. When I love others (John 15:12).
- D. When I bear fruit (John 15:16; John 15:1-8).

Conclusion

1. Jesus wants to be my Friend!
2. I can be His friend!
3. When Jesus is my Friend, I can do what needs to be done (John 15:5; Phil. 4:13)!
4. Is Jesus Your Friend?

*“There’s not a friend like the lowly Jesus, No, not one! No, not one!
None else can heal all our soul’s diseases, No, not one! No, not one!”*

*“No friend like Him is so high and holy, No, not one! No, not one!
And yet no friend is so meek and lowly, No, not one! No, not one!”*

*“There’s not an hour that He is not near us, No, not one! No, not one!
No night so dark, but His love can cheer us, No, not one! No, not one!”*

*“Jesus knows all about our struggles, He will guide till the day is done;
There’s not a friend like the lowly Jesus, No, not one! No, not one!”*



Jay Lockhart has been preaching the gospel for more than 50 years. He currently preaches for the Benton church of Christ in Benton, Kentucky. Jay and his wife, Arlene, have three children and six grandchildren.