

Pilgrim Heart— The Way of Jesus in Everyday Life



**October 7— Befriending:
The Mutual Regard & Care
of Souls**

Introduction:



- **Pilgrim Heart—The Way of Jesus in Everyday Life**
- **John 15:13-15**, “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for his friend...I do not call you servants any longer., but I have called you friends.”

Friendship as a Lost Art

- **C.S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*.**
- **Consequences to the decline of interest in spiritual friendships**
- **Men in crisis**
- **Rich spiritual life**
- **Biblical texts on friends**



Three Kinds of Friendship

- **Love for Humanity**
- **Love for the family of believers**
- **Love for a soul-friend**



The Marks of the Soul-Friend

- **In the process of befriending ...**
- **As imitators of Jesus who want to nurture friendship we offer to others gifts of safety/protection, attentiveness, compassion, empathy, accountability, truth-telling, loyalty, distance, time, forgiveness, spiritual care, and selfless love**

Friendship building

- Extends grace selflessly and lavishly
- Invest heavily in the hard task
- Example of Lewis Mumford & Henry A. Murray.
- It has a sacramental dimension to it
- Presence and patience
- “Angels unawares” (**Hebrews 13:2**), and C.S. Lewis quote.

Conclusion



Paul's dear friends in Rome:

- **Romans 12:19** —no revenge
- **Romans 16:5** —Epenetus, 1st convert
- **Romans 16:8** —Ampliatus
- **Romans 16:9** —Co-worker
- **Romans 16:12** —Persis, woman