

Friend of Sinners

Relational Titles · Names of Christ

The Pharisees used 'friend of sinners' as a slur against Jesus, but it became a title of glory. He came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance. He ate with tax collectors and sinners, scandalizing the religious elite. The Son of Man came eating and drinking, welcoming those whom others rejected. He called His disciples friends, not servants. Greater love has no man than this—that a man lay down his life for his friends. He befriended us while we were yet sinners.

Key Verses

Matthew 11:19

The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children.

Luke 15:2

And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.

Mark 2:17

When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

John 15:13-15

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends.

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Luke 7:34

The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners!

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