

I have loved you that ye also love one another.

John xiii. 34.

### DO YOU WANT A FRIEND?

This is my Friend.—*Song of Solomon vi. 16.*

“**F**RRIEND?” you say. It depends on what sort of a person you will offer me.” Now, I have a Friend, a very precious and trustworthy Friend, and because I know well He is longing to be your Friend too, I have just asked you to let me talk to you a little about Him. My friend is the Lord Jesus Christ. I did not love Him first, or find out how good He was all at once; but He always loved me, and wanted me to love Him in return. I want to spell the word “Friend” to you, and with each letter I will tell you something of what I have found out Jesus to be.

It will help you to remember better what Jesus is, to connect some thought about Him with each letter of the word FRIEND.

What may F stand for? Can you guess? *Faithful*. A *faithful* friend is Jesus. Faithful to us in our sins, faithful to us in our sorrows, faithful to us in our unfaithfulness. Other people may forsake us; they may find out our faults and become disappointed in us, but is it not good to know, that Jesus knows all about us from the very beginning, and loves us in spite of everything?

R is the next letter. Jesus is then a *Real* Friend. There is no deceit about His love for us. Jesus shows that His love is *real*, because He has done, and still does, so much for us.

I is the next letter—*Interceding*. What a good kind of friend that is! A man requires in some unexpected emergency powerful influence to obtain some much-needed—some essential boon. “Ah!” says he, “I’m not afraid; I have a powerful friend. He has influence in the right quarter. I shall get what I want. He is going to use it for me.”

Such a mighty friend is Jesus; one who intercedes for us before God.

*Everlasting* is our word for the letter E.

Once a friend always a friend, is some people’s motto. It is so with Jesus. He will never leave nor forsake.

N stands for near.

Yes; He is very near, always near. “Lo, I am with you *always*.” You cannot always have your earthly friends with you.

*Nothing can separate you from the love of Christ*. Your heavenly Friend will be with you everywhere and anywhere, in readiness to help and bless you.

What is our last letter? It is D; and D stands for *dear*. A *dear* Friend! You learn to love Jesus, although you never saw Him. Whom having *not seen*, ye love. And if he is your Friend here, He will be dearer yet, when one day you will know Him as you are known, and love Him with a perfect, unchanging, unwavering heart. *Is He your Friend?* That is what I want you to tell me. You cannot do better than accept the Lord Jesus as your

Faithful  
R  
I  
E  
N  
D

FRIEND

—Selected.

## YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

Every Monday Evening,

AT 8 O’CLOCK.

ALL INVITED.

He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness.—Isa. lxi. 10.