

Memorial Day 2019

A friend "IN NEED" is a friend "IN DEED"... "Remember"

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Romans 5:8 (NLT)

Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends... You are my friends if you do what I command. John 15:13 (NIV)

Two ways of saying I am a friend "IN DEED"

1. Baptism

Jesus said...make disciples (family)...and baptize them... Matt. 28:19 (NIV)

2. Communion

He took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took another cup of wine and said, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you." Luke 22:19-20 (NLT)

Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives. Matthew 26:30 (NLT)

Making the Most of His Memorial Moment...

1. I need to belong. (No room for party crashers)

For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. 1 Corinthians 11:29 (NIV)

2. I need to clear the air between me and Him.

How?

Get real with His help.

So anyone who eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord unworthily is guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking the cup.

1 Corinthians 11:27-28 (NLT)

Clear the air. (confess it)

But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. 1 John 1:7-9 (NLT)

Recommit to the relationship.

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Romans 12:1 (NLT)

3. I need to clear the air with His family.

...if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV)

Going deeper on your own: On this Memorial Day Weekend, many of us will be celebrating with our families and friends about the freedoms we have because of those who have given their lives for us. Have you ever thought about making the Lord's Supper part of that celebration? What a great moment to share your faith and the hope we have because of what God has done for us through Jesus. During your Memorial Day celebration, take time at the end of the meal time and share John 3:16 and Luke 22:7-20. Then intentionally take time out to remember what the Lord has done for us by taking communion with all of those in your gathering.