



SISTERHOOD *Lounge Room*

From our lounge room to yours!

Episode 1 | Friendship with God
Week 1 Handout

We hope you enjoyed our first episode of The Sisterhood Lounge Room with Nicola Douglass and the girls. As you gather in your lounge room, we have highlighted the key scriptures from this episode, as well as a few questions you can use to continue the conversation...enjoy.

“No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends”

John 15:15 [ESV]

THIS IS HOW WE KNOW GOD WANTS TO BE OUR FRIEND

“You did not choose me, but I chose you.” John 15:16

Helene said the definition of friendship is a “state of enjoying affection, intimacy, and trust between two people.”

God isn’t distant and aloof; He is present and active in our lives. God wants to be known and felt in both the mundane and the monumental seasons of life. He calls us friends to reaffirm the kind of relationship He calls us to, one that is close, intimate, present and constant.

Q: How would you say you relate to God most, as Father, Lord, Saviour, King, Friend, or maybe another way?

Q: How have you felt the closeness of God in your life?



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HOW TO BE INTENTIONAL IN BUILDING A FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

Amy said that she had to stop setting unrealistic expectations for herself, for example praying or reading the Bible for a certain time. She noted, that from her experience, seasons change how our relationship with God looks.

Q: What expectations (positive or negative) do you have on yourself when it comes to your relationship with God?

Q: Do you tend to give yourself grace or are you hard on yourself when it comes to your devotion to God?

Q: What could you do to invest and grow in your friendship with God in a doable way for the season you are in?

“Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith and he was called friend of God.” -James 2:23

Abraham enjoyed proximity to God and was called a friend of God. He trusted God’s Word even when it made no sense in the natural and was willing to sacrifice his desires to put God first. He was prepared to follow God’s direction without knowing the final destination.

Q: What can we learn from Abraham that we can bring into our own friendship with God? What does a friendship with God look like to you, how can you be a friend to God, as Abraham was?

FINAL THOUGHT

Remember that thanks to Jesus, we are already counted righteous in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21). No guilt, shame, or performance is required in our relationship with God. When we truly experience this acceptance and love for ourselves, it births a desire to draw closer to God in the intimacy of friendship that He so freely offers to every one of us.