

SERMON NOTES

August 29 & 30, 2026

Better Together: Real Friends

1. The Church as Jesus intended it to be _____ for loneliness. **John 15:12-13ESV**

2. The law of Christ is fulfilled by _____.
Galatians 6:2ESV

3. Real Friends _____ when it comes to carrying each other's burdens.

4. Maturity according to the world is moving from dependence to _____.

5. Independent self-reliance leads to _____.

6. Spiritually mature friendships move from dependence to _____.

"one another" Greek – Allelon

Galatians 6:2ESV

7. Real friends are:

- _____

- _____

Homework:

- Small Group Check List:

☐ How are we doing at _____ one another?

☐ How are we doing at _____ one another?

☐ How are we doing at _____ one another?

☐ How are we doing at _____ one another?

☐ How are we doing at _____ one another?

- _____ a Small Group

Life Steps

Better Together: Real Friends | August 31 - September 6, 2026

Monday

John 15:13

Reflect: What was your key takeaway from the weekend message? In your opinion, what are the characteristics of a “real friend?” What is preventing you from going deeper in your friendships? If married, with your spouse? What action step will you take to deepen those relationships?

Prayer: Holy Spirit of God, help me be the friend to others that I crave and long for myself.

Tuesday

John 15:12

Reflect: The command and phrase to “love one another” appears at least 16 times in the New Testament and is implied more than a hundred times. Imagine some of your most important relationships. How well do you give love so they really experience being loved? How well do you receive love? Where is there room for you to grow?

Prayer: Holy Spirit of God, help me to grow in love for my friends, my family, and for those you will bring into my life today.

Wednesday

Galatians 6:2

Reflect: How does Galatians 6:2 connect with Jesus’ command to love one another? Why is bearing one another’s burdens essential for spiritual growth and maturity? How well do you allow others to help carry your burdens? Where is there room for you to grow? Visit pathway.church/smallgroup if you would like to learn more about joining or starting a small group.

Prayer: Holy Spirit of God, as I strive to carry the burdens of others, help me swallow my pride and allow others to do the same for me.

Thursday

Ephesians 4:32

Reflect: Imagine some specific people in your life. How can you be kinder and more tenderhearted in your daily actions? Why is it important to forgive? How are kindness, tenderheartedness, and forgiveness connected? Where is there room for you to grow?

Prayer: Holy Spirit of God, soften my heart towards those who get under my skin and easily irritate me.

Friday

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Reflect: Think about your upcoming day and the people you will see. How might you encourage and build them up? How does encouragement strengthen a relationship? Where is there room for you to grow?

Prayer: Holy Spirit of God, open my eyes and ears to better notice the opportunities to build others up with words of encouragement.

Saturday

1 Peter 4:9

Reflect: How does the practice of hospitality reflect the character of God? Think about all the things on your to do list, including attending worship. What are some practical ways you can show hospitality to others throughout the weekend? Where is there room for you to grow?

Prayer: Holy Spirit of God, may the look on my face and the tone of my voice cause others to feel seen and welcomed in my life.

Sunday

John 15:9-17

Reflect: In light of what you learned from our Better Together series, what are your key applications from this passage?

Prayer: Pray for those who are being baptized today. Pray that the Holy Spirit will convict others to accept Jesus’ hand of friendship and get baptized as well.