

The Foundation of True Friendship

April 6, 2013

The Bible says, "Better a nearby friend than a distant family." Sometimes it's easier to develop close friendships with those outside your immediate family circle. Even in prison, go figure. Maybe because most prisoners are gregarious and feel they can correlate their lifestyles.

The Bible mentions a different type of friendship called a blood relative; brothers and sisters joined at the hip through the blood of Jesus. This is the kind of friendship that doesn't allow us to go off and do our own thing. It requires us to do the hard work of getting along with each other, treating each other with . . . hmmm . . . honor! But how can we as prisoners develop this type of blood relative relationship when the devil has us demarcated by our coterie, race, creed, origin, or upbringing? Brainwashing us to believe that one nationality is superior over the other. From the late soul of Rodney King (R.I.P.), brought to national fame by the brutality of officers sworn to protect and serve, I believe the phrase was, "Can't we all just get along?" From where I'm sitting, no! But my heart says by the blood of Christ, yes we can!

Food for thought For this to happen it calls for long term commitment not readily understood by the "me generation" we live in today, where, when the going gets tough it's acceptable to bail out of a friendship and move on. Make's you wonder if they were your friend to begin with.

Pseudo people find friends among like minded, like income people who vote like they do and have the same golf handicap. These friendships work until the bottom falls out of their life, they face prison time, a tragic loss occurs (housing market), or they discover a serious illness (cancer), and suddenly they realize that no one cares for them or their situation. Why? Wait for it because they've made no investment in anybody's life and now when they need to make a withdrawal there's

So what is the foundation of true friendship? Sacrificial love!
Christ showed us the greatest example in the history of mankind.
His death on the cross! What are you willing to sacrifice out of
love? Hmmm, I wonder?

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