

"And the Scripture was fulfilled which saith, 'Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness': and he was called the Friend of God."
James 2:23 KJV

A prerequisite for any friendship is trust. If trust is broken, so is friendship. Friendship naturally invokes fellowship. If we don't trust God, we can neither be His friend nor enjoy the fellowship of "*walking in the Light.*" If I trust someone, I will believe in them, even when rumor and doubt cloud their character. I trust them, because I know them. I know them, because of our fellowship. They have proven themselves to me time and time again. We are too quick to believe rumors about a trusted friend. We subconsciously impose our character flaws upon our friends. Deep down, we know we're wrong, but we start doubting nonetheless. When Satan whispers doubt into our consciousness, we must not impose human imperfection upon God's Word. "*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*" There are no imperfections in the immutable Holiness of the omniscient God! We forsake; we quit; we betray; we doubt; we lie; we fail; but "*Jesus Christ [is] the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful: He cannot deny Himself.*" Without a second thought, we doubt God's Word over the slightest question that rears its ugly head. It was a question that opened Eve up for temptation and sin. Satan asked, "*Hast God said?*" Her ignorance of God's Word became apparent in her answer; "...*neither shall ye TOUCH IT lest ye die.*" Satan knew immediately that he had her! God never commanded Adam not to touch the fruit, because Adam's job was to keep the Garden. The serpent reached out, plucked the fruit and took a big juicy bite! How do I know this? Eve "*saw that [it] was good for food.*" We allow human fallibility to color the perception of Truth by not really knowing it. We "*sow discord among brethren*" by arguing with one another. You're not perfect; you could be the one that's wrong! If you can't agree, drop it. Agree to disagree! My Dad and the other missionaries in Iquitos never fully saw eye to eye on everything, but they all worked together to bring the Gospel to the lost souls of the Amazon jungle. It is never recorded that Abraham argued theology. He even risked life and limb to rescue his covetous nephew, Lot. Trust "*WHOM*" you have believed, not "*WHAT*" you have believed and He will "*guide you into all Truth.*" Read God's Word, ask God for the wisdom "*which He giveth liberally to all men,*" and God will open your eyes to the infinite layers of precious knowledge hidden within the treasure chest of Truth! You'll be wise beyond human knowledge and you'll walk with sure step where brave men fear to tread, because you will be "*the friend of God!*" You'll be free of death and fear, forever!



The Friend of God: O can it be?
For wretched, worthless, humanity?
Tis surely true for all who know,
The blessed Lord who loves us so! ~CGP

You cannot know God apart from faith in His Word. If you know His Word, you will know Him, and you will love and trust Him. Trust is the essence of faith. Faith is the essence of friendship with God. The stronger your faith, the stronger your friendship. Jesus said;

"This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you." John 15:12-15 KJV