

May 30, 2021

Genesis 1:26; 2:18. John 15:9-14

Title: "What A Friend We Have In Jesus!"

Introduction:

"Then God said, "Let's make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." Genesis 1:26 NRSV

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." Genesis 2:18 NRSV

A researcher called Erik Alsgaard identifies in his book *"Living Faithfully as Friends and Family"* that the more equal a society is, the better off everyone is. The bigger the gap between rich and poor, the worse off everyone is.

The three persons of the trinity are equal. The Father, Son and the Holy Spirit are not in a hierarchy, they are co-equal, constantly giving and receiving from one another. What does that mean for us?

1. Inclusivity is part of Christianity. Equality is built into the very nature of God, and inequality is the opposite of God's nature.
2. Mutual self-giving is at the heart of what it is to be human.
3. Constant movement and dynamic creation are at the heart of what it is to be human.

The relationship between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is often described with a Greek word meaning dance – it is a fluid exchange between the three persons. And this exchange involves moving, giving, and receiving.