

Names and Titles and Attributes of Jesus - For Kids

A Friend of Sinners

[List](#)

"For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon." The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Behold a gluttonous man, a wine drinker (a drunk person), and a Friend of Tax-collectors and Sinners." But wisdom is justified by her children." (see Matthew 11:18-19)

Jesus mentions three accusations that were spoken against Him by the religious hypocrites. Two were in context false; but one was altogether true: **Jesus was a Friend of Tax-collectors and Sinners.**

A friend is someone who really cares about you, and wants to spend time with you, and be kind to you. A tax-collector was someone who gathered public taxes, for profit, from his fellow countrymen for the Roman Empire; and was despised and hated for doing so. And a sinner is some one who does bad unrighteous things: sinful things that were against God's Law, rules, and way of living good lives in obedience to God." We are all sinners, and Jesus wants to be our friend. Please consider the following verses from the Bible:

But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all those who believe: for there is no difference: **for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God**; and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; who God has set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the forgiveness of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God." (see Romans 3:21-25)

"And as Jesus passed forth from there, He saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the tax-collectors-booth: and He said unto him, "**Follow Me.**" And he arose, and followed Jesus. And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at mealtime in the house, behold, **many tax-collectors and sinners** came and sat down with Him and His disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Master eat with tax-collectors and sinners?" But when Jesus heard that, He said unto them, "Those who are healthy do not need a doctor, but those who are sick do. But go you and learn what this means, "**I will have mercy, and not sacrifice,**" (from Hosea 6:6) for **I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.**" (Matthew 9:9-13)

Repentance means to feel real sorry about one's sins, and to stop sinning and only do good, kind, and upright things in obedience to God's commandments. Please consider the following:

Jesus said, "This is My commandment, That you love one another, just as I have loved you. Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. **You are My friends, if you do what I command you.**" (see John 15:12-14)

A Prayer to Jesus

Dear Jesus, You laid down Your Life for sinners who You chose to be friends with!
Thank You Jesus for dying on the Cross for the forgiveness of my sins.
Thank you for giving me everlasting life in Your Kingdom.
Thank You for being a Friend to Sinners like me!

Dear Jesus, You are my Savior! You are my King! And You are my Friend!

Thank You God Most High for Your Grace, and Mercy, and amazing Love for me!!
Please help me to live a good, kind, upright, and sinless life!

I Love You Jesus!