

# My Best Friend Ever

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Over the years, I have had several friends, but only a few close ones. I still have one friend from high school and college that I still occasionally talk to. He is probably the only one whom I would still feel comfortable talking to about nearly anything (other than my wife who is now my closest and best friend). But no matter how close, or even intimate, you are to another person, you may still feel uncomfortable discussing some subjects, like something you did many years ago or a thought you may have. You may feel that they might be disappointed in you or shocked or might even judge you. You might feel that it will harm your relationship and cause mistrust, resentment or shame.

Fortunately, though, as I get older, I am able to say that my relationship with my best friend ever is continuing to grow stronger and closer. This friend loved me dearly, long before I even knew him. He has been watching over me, guiding me and protecting me for all of my life. As our relationship grows, I now know that I can trust him with all my desires, plans, concerns, and even my deepest, darkest secrets without him judging or chastising me. He understands every part of me and is always by my side ready to listen to me.

So, who is my Best-Friend-Ever? He is God (God my loving heavenly Father, God the Son – my savior, and God the Holy Spirit – my constant companion, residing in me alongside my spirit ever since the point of my salvation). Since God has always been with me, He has seen and heard everything that I have ever done, said or thought. Therefore, I feel very comfortable talking to Him about any subject. He is always available to listen to me anytime I need Him and anywhere I am. He may be disappointed in me at times, and I'm sure I deserve His disappointment in me, but He forgives me and is never shocked and won't judge me or tell others about my wrong doings. If I have shame, it is my fault and I must learn to accept His forgiveness.

Over the years, I have seen how God has answered my prayers and those of people around me. I have learned to trust Him and try my best to obey His Word. This relationship has given me the abundant life which Jesus has promised to give us if we only turn our life over to Him. The abundance that Jesus offers is emotional and spiritual fulfillment, not physical possessions or wealth. By asking God to guide my every decision and help me abide by His desires, He has bestowed in me abundant peace, love, patience, understanding, faith and joy.

Now, the only thing that can make this relationship more complete with my best friend ever, is for me to meet Jesus – face to face, upon my heavenly arrival after my physical death. Knowing that this relationship will last throughout eternity, it makes me want to know God even better and continue to grow in our closeness. This is being accomplished as I regularly read His Word (the Holy Bible) and pray to Him everyday and thank Him always for everything He has done and is doing to grow our relationship.