

# My VERY best friend of all

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**By Judith Biggs**

BIG SANDY, Texas—One of the greatest blessings in this life is having reliable friends.

When I meet someone for the first time, I am anxious to tell him who I am. He in turn tells me who he is. We are soon exchanging ideas. If there is enough similarity, a connection can be made. If a connection is made, a friendship can grow.

Over a lifetime, some friends come and go. There are times when we say good-bye to old relationships and there are times when we meet new people later in life.

There are some good friendships that last for years and decades. And there are some great friendships that last a lifetime.

As we all know, friendships take work. To cultivate the friendships we value, we need to remember positive characteristics. Some of those qualities include being reliable, a good listener and sensitive to needs.

We should not feel a need to manage each other's lives. But we can be available to encourage people to make right decisions. And it is important to love them, even when they make mistakes.

I have found good friends in this life, but there is one friend who stands out above the rest.

## **Life imitates art**

In 1999 I wrote a children's book titled *Possum's Corner*. The main character in the story was a cat named Possum.

In chapter eight, Possum told Farmer that he was marrying another cat named Teeny Bit. In chapter 10, Granny was making a bow tie for the one whom Possum would choose as his best man.

Granny said that the best man "is supposed to be your best friend."

Possum was confused because he had many friends.

Possum finally chose No-Tail (a dog). He stated his reason as such: "No-Tail is my Very, Very, Very best friend."

And how did Possum describe his future bride, Teeny Bit? He said: "Teeny Bit is my VERY best friend of all."

Some of us are blessed to have a spouse who is a great friend. My husband, Chuck, and I have been married for 45 years.

While I love Chuck to pieces, my VERY best friend of all is my Heavenly Father.

### **Reminds me of school**

I have to be honest. There are times when I am in so much awe of God that I feel like I am back at school.

I went to a good high school in the late 1950s and I had good teachers. In fact, I was in awe of them. They were adults with all this knowledge, and I was the stupid kid.

I had no problem doing what they asked. But I did not know them and they didn't really know me. No matter how much I admired them, they were not my friends.

Sometimes, my prayers through the years have been like talking with the teachers whom I respected.

It seemed like I would raise my hand to be acknowledged. I would approach God and rattle off a monologue to Him.

- Thank Him.
- Mention a list of ministers who need help.
- Mention the sick.
- Discuss how bad things are in this world and hope His Kingdom will hurry up and come.
- Mention my needs and wants.
- Thank Him again.

### **Deepening friendship**

When you look at that outline of things to say in prayer, it doesn't look that bad. But something has changed through the years.

I began developing a special living connection with God.

It is very important for me to have a friendship with God. And I want this relationship to last for eternity.