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A Spiritual Lesson in Toon Language: (We Need  
Christian Morals And Ethics: Lesson IIB)--What  
Love and Friendship Is

XI) Opening Prayer

XII) Opening Discussion: Today we are going to  
discuss what love and friendship actually is. What do  
you think friendship actually is? Any thoughts?

XIII) Cartoon: **Save The Tiger** (TaleSpin)

XIV) Discussion About The Cartoon: **What did you notice about friendship in this cartoon?**

XV) Bible Study III: Read Luke 10: 25-37, Mark 14: 1-9, 12: 41-44 with students.

XVI) Analysis Of Bible Study Linked With Cartoon:

**What do these scriptures mean to you? Sacrifice is one of the attributes of friendship. Sometimes there is no need but sometimes there is. Sometimes you need**

to allow yourselves to not get your own way in order  
to help your friend or friends. In these Bible  
examples, the people sacrificed heavily in order to  
help someone. The Good Samaritan in Jesus'  
parable, didn't much care what everyone else thought  
just so he did the right thing and helped the injured  
man, Jesus was anointed by a woman who loved him  
enough to break an irreplaceable asset of hers, the  
widow we just saw gave up every bit of money she  
had to live on (even if it weren't much) and according  
to Jesus gave more than anyone else. All of these  
were for the sake of friendship with Jesus even

though the sacrifices may have seemed great. These people didn't have to give these up, but they did it out of love and friendship—a heart of thanksgiving.

God wants to be our true friend free of charge. The

Bible states:

<sup>Mt 20:17</sup> Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside and said to them,  
<sup>Mt 20:18</sup> “We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death  
<sup>Mt 20:19</sup> and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!”

Mt 20:20 Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him.

Mt 20:21 "What is it you want?" he asked.

She said, "Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom."

Mt 20:22 "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?"

"We can," they answered.

Mt 20:23 Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father."

Mt 20:24 When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers.

Mt 20:25 Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.

Mt 20:26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,

Mt 20:27 and whoever wants to be first must be your  
slave—  
Mt 20:28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be  
served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom  
for many.”

Jesus died on the cross for all of the mean things we  
do. Jesus is our true friend. We won't have to die like  
Jesus did (The Ultimate Sacrifice) because that is no  
longer needed.

Becky in this cartoon gave her everything to save  
Baloo. She lost her business, house, and all other  
property to save her friend from the would-be

kidnappers. Even her daughter lost all the pennies she had to save Baloo.

In the biggest fashion imaginable, God gave his everything to save us. In return he asks nothing except our friendship to Him (because we can with Jesus' grace now) and our friendship to others.

Friendship is what God built us for. God's friendship costs us nothing. It cannot be earned with money or good deeds. That means no strings attached. If you are mean and hateful to someone you are denying that free gift of love and friendship that is God's gift to us.

As well, if you are mean and hateful to people,

especially on a continuous basis (for example a hot temper or being a consistent bad sport), you won't even be able to pay people to spend time with you even if there was such a thing as "ACME Rent-A-Friend", or something similar. We were never intended to have to "Rent-A-Friend". Aren't you glad for that? We need to accept people's differences of music, food, fun, and beliefs. This doesn't mean approving or condoning these things if we feel in our hearts that anything of these and such isn't right. We may not agree with everyone but we need to be understanding of these differences and be their friend

anyway. True friends are special regardless.

Luckily, God isn't a "Rent-A-Friend" God. We shouldn't be "Rent-A-Friend" people. This means we aren't supposed to attach strings to our friendships (sell our friendship), or being mean and hateful and lose friends (need to "Rent-A-Friend").

Next time, we will talk about love. This is the very root of true friendship.

XVII) Closing Prayer: