An aerial photograph of a beach with turquoise water and white foam waves crashing onto the sand. The text '40 days of Prayer' is overlaid in white serif font.

40 *days of*
Prayer



Friendship with God

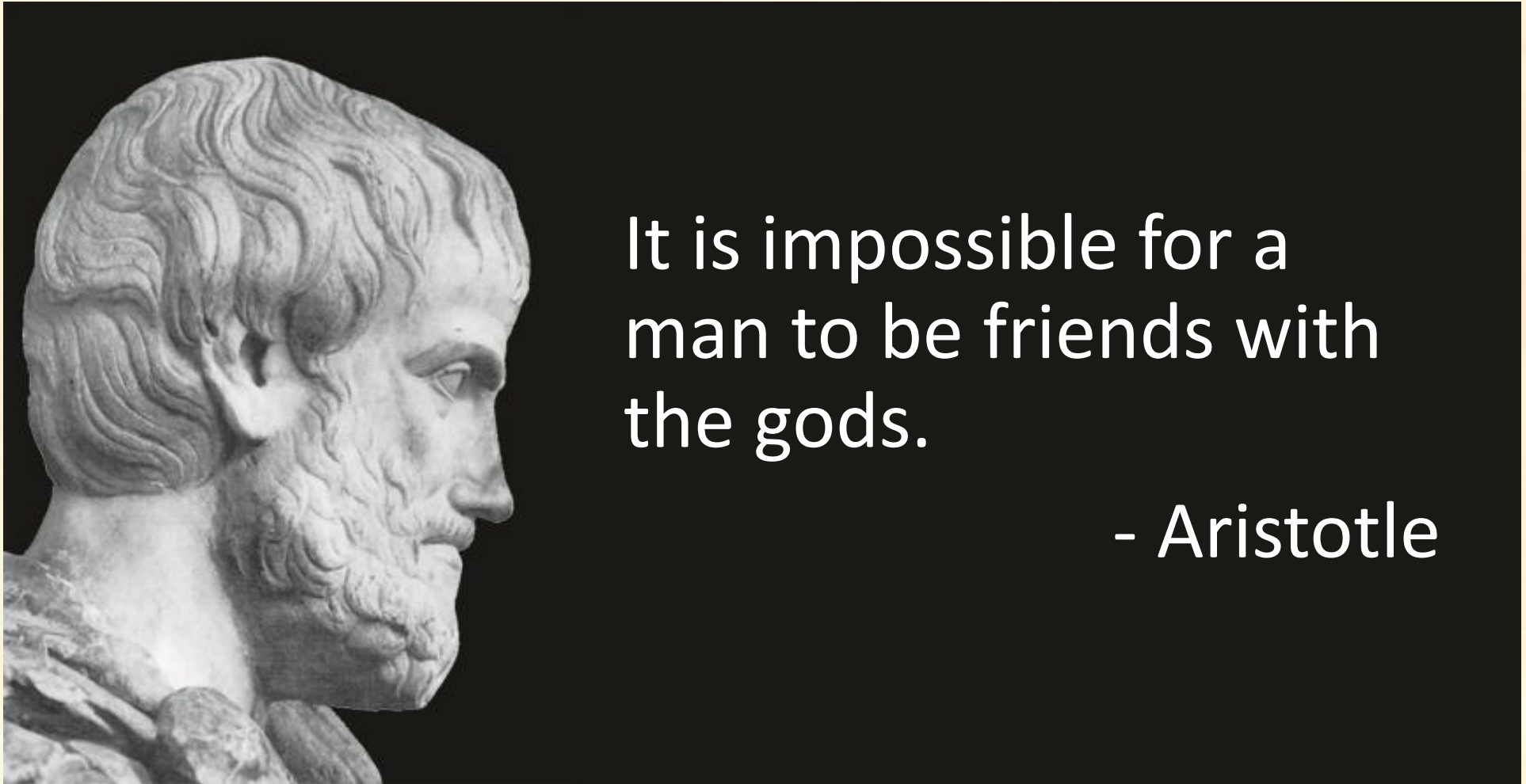
Prayer as communion with God

1: The offer of Divine Friendship

“The LORD would to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.” (Exodus 33:11)

- Those who fear Him (Psalm 25:14)
- Prophets (Amos 3:7)
- Tax collectors and sinners (Luke 7:34)
- Disciples of Jesus (John 15:15-16)
- With world of God (James 4:4-6)

1: The offer of Divine Friendship



1: The offer of Divine Friendship



1: The offer of Divine Friendship

[Jesus] had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make atonement for the sins of the people. [Heb 2:17]



2: Created in God's Image

Genesis 1:26-27

Then God said, "Let *us* make man in our *image*, after our *likeness*. And let them have *dominion*..." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; *male and female* he created them.

- Trinitarian Community = Friendship
- God is Love, then Power (Augustin)



3: God's longing for friendship

Genesis 3:8-9

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

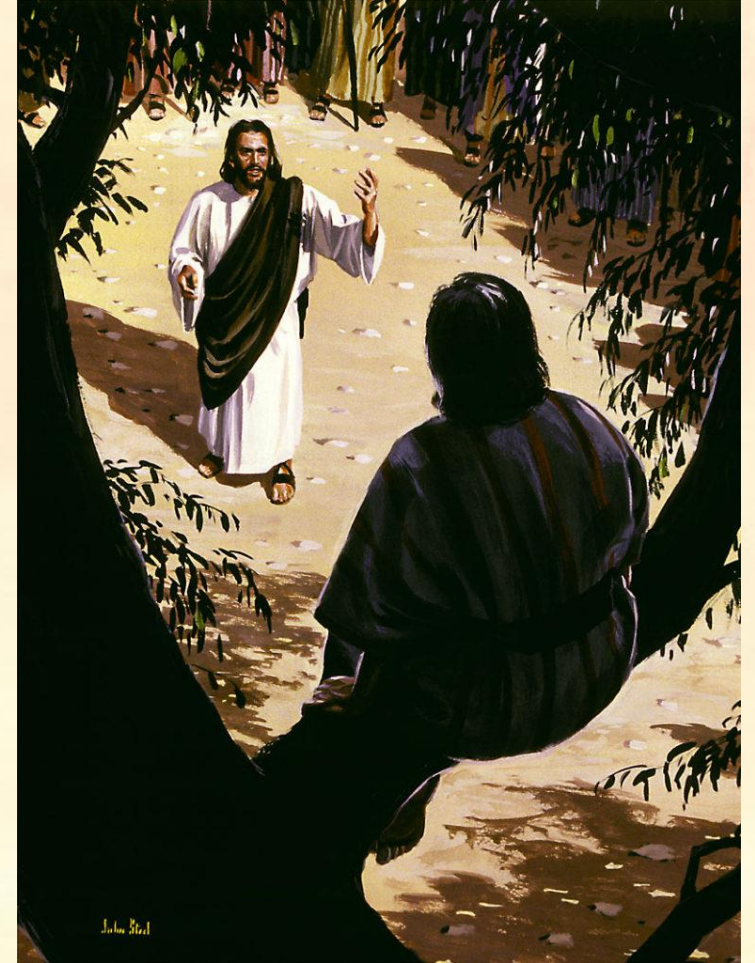
But the LORD God called to the man and said to him,
"Where are you?"

4: A transforming friendship

Luke 19:1-6

2 There was a man named Zacchaeus
...a rich chief tax collector... but small
in stature. 4 So he climbed up into a
sycamore tree to see Jesus... 5 Jesus
looked up and said to him,
***"Zacchaeus, hurry and come down,
for I must stay at your house today."***

- Recognized, Accepted, Valued
- Lead to radical transformation



4: A transforming friendship

Friendship is

- **Candour** (always let you in)
- **Constancy** (never let you down)

- Derek Kidner



4: A transforming friendship

No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but *I have called you friends*, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me, but I chose you... whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.[John 15:15-16]



What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1820-1886

- Irish graduate, engaged
- Tragedy Spring 1844
 - “To bottom of my world
seemed to disappear”*
- Moved to Ontario, Canada
 - “The Good Samaritan of Port
Hope... Never denied a
request for help”*
- Tragedy Spring 1854 (E Rosh)



What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1820-1886

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

2. Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge;
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;
thou wilt find a solace there.