

Dear Friend of [Abiding Above](#),

April 2012

Many people are not sure they are truly saved. This is the most unsettling feeling a person can have this side of heaven. What is it that causes even some pastors and missionaries to doubt their salvation?

- One reason is because they have never been discipled on basic things like assurance of salvation. This matter of assurance should be one of the first things we teach a new child of God.
- A second reason you might doubt your salvation is because you have never been clear on the difference between a relationship with God and fellowship with God.

The Bible teaches us that our relationship with God can never be broken.

*“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?” As it is written:*

*“For Your sake we are killed all day long;  
We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”*

*“Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. <sup>3</sup>For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, <sup>39</sup>nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” **Romans 8:35-39***

God has said in His Word, *“In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.” **Ephesians 1:13-14***

This means, my friend, that now and forevermore, God sees you as standing inside of Christ! Forever fully forgiven! Completely accepted! Eternally secure and sealed!

I have just returned from a funeral in Georgia. It was the funeral of a close friend of mine named George Eager. He lived to be 91, and is one of the godliest men I have known. It was George Eager that helped me understand what the Bible had to say about being *“In Christ.”*

I learned this most liberating truth through the simple Bible lessons that Mr. Eager wrote for many years.

His funeral was well attended, and many individuals stood and reflected on the ways George had influenced their lives. Over and over again we were reminded of the core truth that seemed to come from all of his writings, *"I'm in Christ and Christ is in me."*

The family asked me to say a word at the graveside service. I shared how a simple man shared a simple message to a young man from Mississippi and how this message changed everything in my Christian experience. My friend, apart from salvation, the next greatest thing you need to know is, ***"I am in Christ and Christ is in me."***

If you would like to receive a first lesson written by Mr. George Eager, please write to us at the address on this newsletter. We will send you one immediately and at no cost to you. Consider signing up others in your family and in your friendships.

Paul said in **Galatians 2:20** – *"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."*

My friend, this is how you were placed inside of Christ-you were crucified with Him.

Paul goes on to say in **Romans 6:5-6** – *"For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin."*

And then, my favorite passage by the Apostle Paul in **Colossians 3:1-3** – *"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."*

Please be praying as we negotiate a contract with a radio station in Atlanta, Georgia. This station reaches more than 3 million people within an hour's drive of Atlanta. This is a great opportunity and one that I believe God has opened the door for us to go through.

My friend, keep praying and supporting us. God is working and to Him we give all the honor and glory!

Abiding above,



Chris S. Hodges  
President  
Abiding Above Ministries  
Colossians 3:1-3