



Dear Friend of *Abiding Above*,

April 2016

My friends, I have learned through many years of ministry now that the aching of the child of God in this present age can be summed up with these words, *"Oh God, I must know something I don't know!"* My friend, this is the heart cry for personal revival!

You see, personal revival involves discipleship, and Christian discipleship leads us down a narrow path, a path of separation from this world, and this way is difficult. But those who faithfully follow God's teachings find the abundant life. But on the other hand, there is the wide gate - the life of self-indulgence and pleasure and the end of such a life is destruction. This is not necessarily a discussion of losing one's soul, but of a failure to live out the purpose of one's existence, therefore **these verses also have an application** to the gospel by depicting the two roads and destinies of the human race. The **wide** gate and broad way lead to destruction.

Proverbs 16:25 – *"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."*

The **narrow** gate and difficult way lead to life, and Jesus is both the gate and the way.

Jesus said in **John 10:9** – *"I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture."*

Jesus said in **John 14:6** – *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

My friends, which way have you decided upon? Because of the resurrection, we are absolutely certain that Jesus has power over sin and death. And because Jesus overcame death, we do not have to be afraid to live for Him or to die for Him. We must continually remember that we died with Christ, and when He was raised we were raised. Christ is free from death, and since we are in Him we are free from eternal death.

Everywhere we turn today, we hear of Christians losing their lives at the hands of those who hate the name of Jesus, what it stands for and those who profess to be believers and followers of the Lord Jesus Christ but in all of this, you and I are called to stand firm, to be bold, and to be believers who understand that the responsibility of sharing the one true message of the Gospel to those who are lost rests with us. It is our responsibility to share this message within our own circle of influence and beyond.



Chris Hodges
President & CEO

Someone has rightly said, we either, “*evangelize or fossilize.*” My friends, it is so vitally important that we learn to share our faith with others and to consistently practice it as a way of life. We should witness for Christ where we live, work, attend school, or anywhere else.

You see, ministry is not just about being saved and going to church. It is so much more. God has given all of us the ministry of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 - *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God. 21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”*

All people should be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. I believe everyone reading this newsletter understands this to be God’s command for our lives, but because of fear many of us do nothing. We must press ahead and overcome the “*fear of man*” and the “*fear of rejection.*” These are the tools of Satan to keep us silent and to keep us from reaching the lost for Jesus Christ. Pray and ask God to help you to overcome your fears and to lead you to at least one person this week, and every week, with whom you can share your faith. Pray for a divine appointment, and when God opens that door of opportunity, step through it. We all know people who are lost, be it a family member, a co-worker, or even a neighbor. We don’t have to look far for the lost, they are all around us and they need what we have...Jesus!

My friends, our time here is so short. Let’s make the most of it doing what will count for all Eternity.

I am enclosing just **one tract** in this newsletter, just for you. It is for that **one person** Jesus has laid upon your heart to give it to. Don’t throw it away. Don’t stick it in a drawer. Pray and ask God to show you how to use it this week. You will be so glad that you did!

As always, we love you and are grateful for your prayers and financial support. May God continue to bless you and make you a blessing to many more!

Abiding above,

Chris S. Hodges



President

Abiding Above Ministries

Colossians 3:1-3