



Dear Friend of *Abiding Above*,

April 2018

Every year in the spring time, we feel the cool air become warmer. We watch the seeds sprout that we have planted, and watch those early flowers begin to bloom. We are also reminded of and celebrate the death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul said, *“For I delivered to you as of ‘first importance’ what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures ...”* **1 Corinthians 15:3-4**

My friend, as we remembered our Lord earlier this month in celebrating Easter, let’s also renew our efforts to share the Easter story with as many people as possible while we still have life in our bodies.

Notice Paul said, *“first importance!”* The most important thing we can do as a child of God is to:

Share the gospel of Jesus Christ with every person ...

This is the very first part (**first importance**) of the Abiding Above Mission Statement.

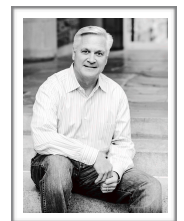
Thank you for praying, enlisting yourself and others in helping, and for your financial giving! We need you!

To, *share the gospel of Jesus Christ*, a team of us recently handed out simple gospel tracts at the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in downtown Memphis, TN. It’s the largest annual parade in the city. More than 10,000 people attended!

Carolyn Alsip printed and folded these 1,500 tracts! Then she inserted a free Bible lesson sign-up coupon in each one. Thank you, Carolyn, for your labor of love!

The tract briefly told the story of St. Patrick and how he was taken captive in England as a boy and carried to Ireland. He eventually escaped and returned to England, where he found Christ as his Lord and Savior. In a way that only God can work, St. Patrick went back to Ireland as a missionary. It truly is a great story.

What was interesting, no one, including us, really remembered much about St. Patrick.



Chris Hodges
President & CEO

As we asked people, “Do you know who St. Patrick was?” They would look at each other and then begin to laugh as they realized they were at a parade in memory of St. Patrick... but did not know who he was. The tract closes with the way to enter into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Team Members: Chris Hodges, Mike Hopkins, Logan Mitchell, Greg Taylor, Lin Reynolds, and Carolyn Alsip



As we walked back through the crowd, where we handed out 1, 252 of these tracts, we could see people reading them. We could see the tracts in back pockets and shirt pockets. Please, right now, pause and pray for God to continue using these paper missionaries as they went out all over the city and the Tri-State area.

It is our continual prayer for you and your family, that God blesses everything you put your mind and hands to.

Abiding above,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Chris S. Hodges".

President
Abiding Above Ministries
Colossians 3:1-3

PS - Praise the Lord, 28 people prayed to receive Christ as I preached at Memphis Union Mission in March!