



Dear Friend of [Abiding Above](#),

August 2016

My friends, I believe that Jesus is coming soon. Amen! As I see the state of our nation, it confirms in my heart what God has called us to:

***Sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with every person,
Encouraging spiritual growth in every believer,
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
And to the glory of God.***

Spiritual growth should be the desire of every believer. Sadly, this gets crowded out, mainly because of busyness and sometimes even busyness for God. I was speaking to someone recently about the need to **‘come apart, before you come apart.’**

In [Luke 5:16](#) we see that Jesus would often slip away to the wilderness and pray. I encourage you to be creative and find places throughout each day where you can be alone, even for as little as five minutes and life will become a romance between you and God! In [Luke 4:42-44](#) again we see Jesus departing to a lonely place to commune with our Father in heaven. Jesus was not rejecting the people but preparing himself for ministry to the people who were seeking him. Jesus had an itinerant ministry which is revealed in verses [43](#) and [44](#) where he said, ***“I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also; for therefore (this reason) am I sent.”***

And he preached in the synagogues of Galilee.

No matter what your life’s vocation is, there is always a way to get alone with God. We must make it our priority. We will be blessed when we do and will be a blessing to others as we walk along with God each day. Someone has said,

***“Strong and attractive graces are not ‘works’ they are ‘fruits’
The natural and spontaneous growth of
Much communion with God.”***

I pray this will encourage you, today!



Chris Hodges
President & CEO

As a ministry, we are setting into motion everyday things that will last. **Think about this.** Every discipleship lesson we put into a person's hand anywhere in this world is a lesson that points to the cross of Jesus Christ, and also begins the process of discipling a new believer or even a long time believer. This lesson may lie in a box somewhere only to resurface many years later after God has called us home. Each copy of a sermon on CD that is given away influences that person in their spiritual growth and may continue to resurface in the lives of people many years from now. **Be careful!** There are many things you can put your time and resources into; make sure you are fulfilling the Great Commission. Time must be short. Remember the old song “... *let your treasures be in heaven waiting, riches are not found on earth.*”

A dear lady writes, "The Abiding Above lessons have literally changed my life. I have learned that God is love. It is a comfort to know God loves me and will never leave or forsake me. It is a joy to serve the Lord. In this course I have gained a much better understanding of how to serve God and be a happy Christian. I look forward to receiving these lessons in the future. Thanks for the lessons."

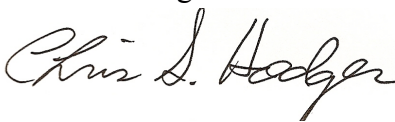
My friend, this is **what you are supporting.** There is no waste and no glorifying man, just the simple and persistent sharing of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and the encouragement of spiritual growth, **world-wide.**

We love you and we need you! We truly are thankful for you! I know there are so many opportunities for giving. At least, we do know each other. You will not be giving to something abstract, but to a ministry in which you are taking part that allows me to help people in all walks of life by taking them where they are and simply and lovingly showing them Jesus Christ.

I personally thank you for your willingness to help, and am grateful to God for how He will use us to reach others with the message of “*Christ died for you, and you died with Christ.*”

Abiding above,

Chris S. Hodges



President

Abiding Above Ministries

Colossians 3:1-3