

Dear Friend of Abiding Above,

February 2017

Thank you for your continued support of this ministry as we get the gospel message of Jesus Christ out to many thousands of people through the radio, internet, and the printed page. Every means of communication must be used in fulfilling the Great Commission where Jesus said,

"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

As a ministry, we continue to do just that, making the Great Commission first and foremost.

There is also the Great Commandment.

Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." Matthew 22:37

It is certain, if you love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, you will go and make disciples. People will be drawn to the Christ Who lives in you, and He Who is within you will speak through you to others.

The Apostle Peter said, "... but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence ..." 1 Peter 3:15

As people watch you and listen to you, they should pick up on this hope that is in you!

We want to help you in any way we can to make these two commandments a part of your life. We honor and please our Lord when we obey His commandment to love and His commandment to go. Loving and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ is God's good plan for His children.

We have plenty of free gospel tracts for you titled, *How Can I Get To Heaven?* We also have free Bible lessons that you can give to others.

Chris Hodges President & CEO It is important that we have tools. I highly recommend that you be equipped and that you have with you some gospel sharing tools like these. We would love to send them to you. Please write to us and we will make that happen.

Long ago Samuel Rutherford said this about leading another soul to Christ, "It makes your heaven two heavens." If you have ever led another soul to Christ, you will know that this is true. It is exciting and it is humbling.

Over the past six months, we have seen an increase in the number of people who have reached out to us from within the prison systems of several states. These inmates are signing up for Bible lessons and requesting Bibles that they may go further into the word of God. We are teaching and discipling them from the outside, and at the same time, we are providing them with the tools they need on the inside to come alongside many others. God never wastes an opportunity where the heart is willing.

One inmate writes, "Thank you very much for these Bible lessons. They are getting me back on track. Your ministry is truly a blessing to me and my family and other inmates here. Could you please if possible send me a study Bible." – Johnathan

Last month, Johnathan received his study Bible. Johnathan has also been busy signing up his family members and a number of inmates to do the same Bible lessons he has been doing. God is using Johnathan!

A female inmate from another prison writes, "Hello, my name is Tabitha. I'm currently residing in a State prison. Everyday I desperately seek the light of Jesus. My old self was so weary and dark. Now as a new creation, the peace and joy my heart endures [sic] is more amazing than words can express. With that said, your study books and meditations teach me a lot. Please keep sending the lessons to me. I would be much obliged." – Tabitha

Tabitha has been signing up other young ladies alongside of her to go through the same Bible lessons she is doing. God is using Tabitha!

My friend, God is so good, and God wants to use you, too. Remember, people will be drawn to the Christ Who lives in you, and He Who is within you will speak through you to others. Don't sit this one out.

Thank you friend, for supporting us with prayers and your financial gifts. We need you, and God is using you!

Abiding above,

Chris S. Hodges

President

Abiding Above Ministries

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Colossians 3:1-3