June 2011

Thank you so much for praying for me as I traveled to Georgia to preach an Evangelism Conference. Prior to the conference, we had a live radio interview, which encouraged radio listeners to attend. One couple drove up from Florida and was blessed by the teaching!

The topics discussed were on personal witnessing as a way of life, and on the importance of having a system of discipling those who come to faith in Christ. Many people will tell you, if you ask them, that they have never had anyone personally disciple them after they were saved. I believe this is the main reason why our churches have presently plateaued or are in decline.

You can know we continue to disciple people through the mail with Bible lessons and through meeting with individuals on a one-to-one basis.

My father, Curtis Hodges, has been discipling groups of men at a prison in Mississippi. He supplies the Bible lessons that he distributes and grades them and continues with the men from one series to the next. He travels to the prison with friends from a local church. Together they are seeing many men come to Christ and growing up in Him.

My father was instrumental in helping me start "The Abiding Above Discipleship School." As I traveled and preached, I would hand out these Bible lessons to those who would come forward during the invitation time. I would also provide various spiritual books from a table we were allowed to set up. Over the years we have had many to sign up to do these lessons with us. My dad was our first grader and record keeper. We now have a team of volunteer graders and we are grateful to each one.

For a number of years we supplied lessons to Impact Ministries in the Frayser area to give out to people who came for groceries and spiritual counseling. They are perfect for new believers and those who have never learned the basics of the Christian life.

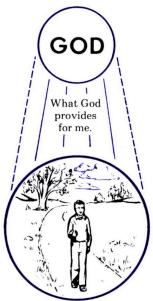
Our ministry assistant, Carolyn Alsip, recently conducted her second Women's Conference. Her first was at Boulevard Baptist Church, and this one was at Emmanuel Baptist Church where she had about 60 women come to hear her teach on what it means to walk in the Spirit in daily living. She did a wonderful job and I am proud of her for walking by faith. She will continue to follow up those women who made decisions to fully surrender to Christ.

There is a statement in one of our lessons that goes like this, "God and what God provides for me is all that I need." My friend, that is a powerful statement. Knowing this, and choosing to walk by faith in this is the cure for anxiety.

Someone has rightly said, "Anxiety makes a rich man poor and contentment makes a poor man rich." This is true, my friend! Why? Because God and what God provides for you is all that you need.

In the Garden of Eden, Satan brought down the whole human race when he deceived Eve into thinking that God was withholding something good from her. In those moments she looked outside of the circle of God's provision and sinned by doubting God's goodness, but Adam, who was with her, was not deceived. He willfully disobeyed God.

Romans 5:19 – "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners ..."



God and what God provides for me is all I need.

Satan has not changed his tactics. He tempts us to look to something other than God to satisfy us. My friend, don't fall into this trap. Remember, what God has provided for you is all that you need. Enjoy this simplicity.

We love you here at Abiding Above Ministries, and we want you to know that God is using you as you help us share the gospel of Jesus Christ with every person, and encourage spiritual growth in every believer, by the power of the Holy Spirit and to the glory of God.

Abiding above,

Chris S. Hodges

President

Abiding Above Ministries

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Colossians 3:1-3