

Dear Friend of **Abiding Above**,

June 2012

I thought you might like to read a few lines from letters sent by students enrolled in our Abiding Above Discipleship School.

“When I sin, I now know I do not need to give up. I need to confess that sin, turn from it asking God to forgive me and keep moving ahead.”

“I know the Lord is my Savior, because I feel the presence of His Spirit working in me to help me change the ways I once had and keeps me reading His Word and praying.”

“I must let go and let God work on me!”

“Though I’m imperfect in certain aspects of the world, I’m perfect in my position with the Lord!”

My friend, together, we continue to share the gospel with every person, encourage spiritual growth in every believer, by the power of the Holy Spirit and to the glory of God.

Do you remember in God’s Word the Parable of the Dinner? Some label this parable as the Parable of the Excuses.

Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, *“Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind. And the servant said, ‘Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.’ Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.’”* **Luke 14:21-23**

This parable speaks of the leaders of the common people being invited to a dinner but they refused because they were simply too busy. They asked that they might be *“excused.”* This is a picture of the rejection of the gospel.

What did God do in this picture? He sent the servant out again to invite the poor and the maimed, the lame and the blind. Many of these responded to the call, but still there was room in the master's house. And so the lord said to the servant to go out into the highways and by-ways, and compel people to come in.

This is a picture of the gospel going out to the Gentile people. Loving persuasion was to be used in an effort to bring them in, so that the master's house might be filled.



This is what we did as a ministry in downtown Memphis. I was invited to preach at the annual tent revival on the property of Memphis Union Mission. We were out in the highways and by-ways lovingly compelling and persuading men, women, boys, and girls to, **“Come to Jesus.”**

There was a 9-member praise team from Lakeland First Baptist Church, and guest singers from Ellendale Baptist Church. They did a wonderful service as unto the Lord!

For 5 days, I taught a discipleship lesson and finished each day with a gospel plea to **“Come to Jesus!”**

We saw more than a hundred individuals come forward making various decisions throughout the week. To God be the glory! Great things He has done!

Thank you for supporting us! We so need you! We are trusting God for someone to consider a one time gift of \$1,854.60, so we can print more of our gospel tract, **“How Can I Get To Heaven?”** Over the years, we have handed out 10,000 of these powerful little paper missionaries and we only have 150 remaining. Please help us in printing these.

Please pray for us as we continue to look for an open door for our radio broadcast “Abiding Above with Chris Hodges” in Washington, DC.

Abiding above,

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

Chris S. Hodges
President
Abiding Above Ministries
Colossians 3:1-3