



Dear Friend of *Abiding Above*,

November 2019

Thank you for praying and thank you for giving! To God be the glory! Great things He continues to do, right here, right now, and around the world!

Mexico Ministry

When you receive this newsletter, I will be traveling to Mexico to conduct a pastor and leadership conference. It's a combination of teaching the *"Believer's Identity in Christ"* and *"Planting Multiplying Disciple Making Churches."*

As I teach these leaders and pastors, it's as if I'm also teaching the people in their churches. God, the Father, continues to remind me, ... *ministry to ministers is ministry to multitudes!*



While I'm in Mexico, I will be showing the Jesus Film in the evenings! Pray that many will ask Jesus to come into their hearts and be connected to a disciple maker who serves in a multiplying disciple making church.

Kenya, Africa Ministry

My longtime friend, Daniel, planted the church below in Kenya, Africa.



Together, we have held conferences that teach God's children how to win people to Christ and how to build them up in the faith through discipleship.

My friend, with your prayers and support this keeps multiplying! Each one reach one! Christ in us for others! Daniel, and those he shepherds, continue to plant new churches. They have been trained to branch out in all directions with the gospel message. With your prayers and support this continues to be put in place! Together, you and I are invested in planting these disciple making churches that will continue on even after God calls us home.

Matthew 28:19 – *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations ...”*

Prison Ministry

Here is a note from Bryan, a prisoner in Arkansas, who is faithfully doing our Bible lessons:

“The most important thing I have learned doing these Bible lessons is seeing God in all my circumstances. For instance, I may be in prison, but it is during this time that my faith is growing and I'm learning to depend on God for everything. As the illustration in this lesson demonstrates, I look through and beyond my circumstances and see the beauty of God's creation, things that I often missed while I was in the free world when I was wrapped up in me and my addiction. The birds, the blue sky and clouds, the green grass and the trees, the hills in the distance. I also have the desire once I get out to come back inside to talk to the guys and intend to become a prison chaplain. And see, I doubt I would have considered this had I not come inside a prison. God is working this out for the good of me and for His glory.”

Present World Conditions - How Should We Be Living (as shown in the illustration below)



Faith looks beyond circumstances
and discovers God at work.

The Bible tells us this...

2 Timothy 3:1–5 – *“But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!”*

My friend, what we see happening is exactly what God tells us in His Holy Word.

How then should we be living? In 2 Timothy chapter 3, it mentions two things which we as God's children might miss. They are...

- 1. ... having a form of godliness but denying its power.**
- 2. ... always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.**

The America we all love, and the small local churches we grew up in as children of God, appear in these last days to have only **a form of godliness**. We simply have so much that we have forgotten how to rely on the indwelling Holy Spirit. Also, we faithfully learn the Bible week by week at church or at another Bible study location. Adrian Rogers often quoted Vance Havner who once said, *"I'm afraid we only sit, soak, and sour."* It sneaks up on all of us. Once we realize it, we must go back to The Great Commandment and The Great Commission.

Like you, I love America, and I love our local churches, but it is obvious to us all, most church growth is transfer growth from one local church to another. What we need is to lead people to Christ, disciple them personally, and eventually invite them to our churches.


You see, this present world is passing away no matter how hard we might try to make a heaven on earth. The wise thing we must do is lead people to Christ, disciple them personally, and encourage people all over this world to do the same! If we are not careful, we will spend all of our time and resources making things nice for ourselves and our local churches instead of having our part in the Great Commission.

Real eternal rewards come from this, ... ***winning men, women, boys, and girls to a saving faith in Jesus Christ!*** We need to spread world-wide and not build a monument to ourselves! Let your treasure be in heaven waiting; riches are not found on earth.

Pray that while I am in Mexico, a disciple making movement will begin just like Jesus did in tiny Jerusalem with his few disciples.

Keep praying and giving! Jesus is coming very soon!

Abiding above,



Chris S. Hodges
Colossians 3:1-3
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