

Dear Friend of Abiding Above,

February 2007

I pray that you are having a lovely new year! At **Abiding Above**, 2007 is shaping up to be a very busy year. We praise God for the doors that are opening for us to 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.

Mission to East Africa. Pray for me! When you read this, I will be in an airplane, high above the earth. Pray I will truly *abide above*. I'm on my way to the capital city Nairobi in Kenya, East Africa. I will be preaching in many high schools to thousands of teenagers all day every day leading up to a great rally at the largest church in the city. We expect 3,500 to 4,000 to attend the rally. Some forty volunteers have worked to bring this effort together. Please pray for them and their team leader, Timothy Kyuli.

I remember well this scene from East Africa in January 2006, just one year ago.



Work with Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute. Steve Rogers, Executive Director of The Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute, will accompany me on this trip to bring the practical aspects of the work of the pastor in a Pastors' Conference in Nairobi that I will lead. I will teach the pastors about the Spirit-filled life in the work of the pastor.

By a video series, Steve will present his father's seminar: What Every Pastor Ought to Know. This training will be the first overseas seminar of this type for Steve and the Institute. Pray for us in this partnership. I am happy to help take the work of Dr. Rogers to the pastors in East Africa. What better man to learn from than Dr. Adrian Rogers? His many years as a pastor, his heart of an evangelist, and his Spirit-filled walk make these training sessions perfect for every pastor. Pray for this pastors' conference!

We are also planning other conferences overseas. Pray for this partnership between **Abiding Above Ministries** and The Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute.

Message at Crichton College.: Recently I was well-received by students at Crichton College here in Memphis. I shared with them the simple gospel and saw two pray to receive Christ. I also shared with many believers, about their true identity in Christ.

Identity in Christ.: Any believer who does not understand his or her true identity in Christ will be conformed to this world, rather than conformed to the image of God's Son Jesus Christ. In Romans 12:2 the Apostle Paul said, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

Paul's passion and heartbeat was simple. He teaches us . . .

"For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son."
-- Romans 8:29.

"My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you."
-- Galatians 4:9.

Take My Life.: To begin this transformation and renew your mind, take these steps. Surrender. Close your eyes and say, "I'm not here anymore. I don't have to be first. I don't have to be heard. I don't have to be known. I don't have to live. I want only to be like a writing pen. In the hand of God."

Frances R. Havergal penned these words in **Take My Life, and Let It Be:**

Take my hands and let them move, at the impulse of Thy love.
Take my voice and let me sing, always, only for my King.
Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my will and make it Thine, it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own, it shall be Thy royal throne.

Now, while things are going well for you, choose to surrender complete control to Him. Make Him your life. Then, when trying times come, it will be natural to let Him carry you through. My friend, it is to your benefit to surrender, and it is for His glory.

Love and Prayers. We love you here at **Abiding Above**. I love you. I pray daily for you that God will bless your health, relationships, and all that you put your hands to. Continue to pray for us. Please, help me by sending your gift today to cover the expense of the trip to East Africa. This trip will cost us about \$5,000. Someone, please help us in this. We need you. Many are going to be saved and many are going to be encouraged. I sincerely believe many students will hear God's call into full time ministry.

Seated with you at His right hand, in Christ, and Abiding Above,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris S. Hodges". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Chris S. Hodges
President
Colossians 3:1-3