

Dear Friend of *Abiding Above*,

January 2009

I am praying for you. The holidays are now behind us and we all look forward to what God has in store for us in 2009. It is my sincere prayer that this will be our best year yet.

Pray for me as we finish our planning for the Pastor's Conference and Evangelistic Crusade and prepare to board a plane for Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on January 19th!

Ethiopia Crusade 2009: I have organized a Pastor's Conference and an Evangelistic Crusade outside Ethiopia's capital city of Addis Ababa. I will be preaching a crusade to more than 100,000 people in the city of Dilla, and during the Pastor's Conference in Awasa, I will be working with *The Adrian Rogers Pastor's Training Institute* where we will feature the teaching of Dr. Adrian Rogers and his series, "What Every Pastor Ought To Know." This will be facilitated by his son Steve Rogers. I will also preach a series entitled, "The Spirit-filled Life of the Pastor." Many pastors will be traveling from all parts of Ethiopia to attend this conference and you can know the Bible will be held high in all that we do.

Please pray for the pastor's conference in this way:

1. Anointing of the Holy Spirit for all of the teaching sessions.
2. The set up and all of the equipment to work properly.
3. The pastor's would surrender to God and be teachable.

Thank you for praying for us. I believe God will answer your prayers.

My friend, the crusade I will preach could result in thousands of people coming to know Jesus Christ! We will do a thorough job of following up with every person who prays to receive Christ. Each individual will receive a free Bible Course and be directed to a local pastor who can invite them to their church. Many of these pastor's will be the ones who will go through the pastor's training we are providing.

This crusade has the stamp of God on it. Just for a minute think about what God is going to do in a crusade that has a budget of only \$11,000. God's word will be preached multiple times to more than 100,000 people! That is 11 cents per person! More will be done in a few days than will be done in years in some religious organizations! This is what you are giving to and supporting and we are most grateful to you for making this happen.

Please pray for the Evangelistic Crusade in this way:

1. That God would anoint me as I preach each message.
2. That the Holy Spirit will convict hearts as they hear the word preached in love.
3. The weather to be clear.
4. My interpreter will be anointed to interpret for me.
5. The remaining funds of \$5,700 will be raised before January 19th.

Traveling with me to lead us in music and special performances will be Steve Rogers along with Jamie and Dana Parker. There will also be special music from the adult's and children's choirs performed by the local churches. We will have professional photographer Greg Taylor (www.gtaylorphoto.com) along with us to capture all of this with his camera.

As you can see, we have carved out a great team, and I believe it is God's team for Ethiopia. I feel certain this crusade will continue to open the way for me to preach the gospel all over Ethiopia. If you will remember, in 2007, we did our first crusade in Ethiopia with a crowd exceeding 89,000 and we witnessed more than 10,000 pray to receive Christ! We now go to preach the gospel in another region, to spread the gospel even further, fulfilling our Lord's command, **"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 28:19-20.

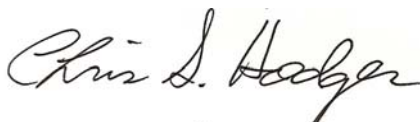
I look forward to reporting back to you all that God will be doing in our crusade and pastor training efforts. Remember, we are still in need of **\$5,700 by January 19th** and **I am asking you to help me raise the remaining funds needed.**

If you would like to update your contact information with us, or if you would like for us to add you to our e-mail list, so that you can receive reports and pictures while we are in Ethiopia you may contact Carolyn Alsip: calsip@abidingabove.org 901-590-9890

Jesus is coming soon! Let Him find you faithful! Remember the old hymn that seems to be lost these days, *"Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face and the things on earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace."*

What I have been reporting to you is real and counts for eternity. Please, have a part in this with me. There is coming a day when we will be judged, not for salvation, that my friend is eternal, but as believers we will be judged for what we have done with our life since the moment of our salvation. Our prayer should be that we hear these words, "Well done good and faithful servant."

Abiding above,



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