

Dear Friend,

October 2005

I thank you so much for your prayers and support! Since my last letter to you God has been using Abiding Above Ministries in a wonderful way. Seeing men and women pray to receive Christ at a mission downtown will always be a blessing. Their only lasting hope is Jesus Christ. It is easy sometimes to get busy in life and not remember those who are down and out in every way. Yes, it is true, many times it is due to wrong decisions they have made and continue to make. For many it is a way of life they learned as a child. We all will give an account of our life one day, including these dear souls who are in a cycle they choose not to break. I ask myself this question sometimes, "what would I want someone to do if I was daily destroying my life and not trying to make changes?" The answer, "not to give up on me." Jesus never gave up on anyone. But he wasn't so concerned with their physical needs as he was the spiritual needs. Often times, it takes getting to the end of yourself before you can hear God. As a ministry, we meet these spiritual needs by **...sharing the simple gospel with the lost and encouraging spiritual growth in the believer, by the power of the Holy Spirit and to the glory of God.** Thank you for helping us do this.

As children of God, we must abide above all that is temporary. This simply means to so live in communion with our heavenly Father that we see all that is around us through His eyes. As we live in such a self-forgetful way, we will weep for the lost and hurt for those who are hurting. Just this month I have encouraged many in my office. There are parents who feel helpless and hopeless in what to do with their teenager who walks the wide road that leads to destruction. There are grandparents whose children and grandchildren are doing things and living in such a way that was unheard of in the days of their youth. They are grappling with the most bizarre things. Interceding for them, to some degree, I feel what they feel all the while listening to the Holy Spirit in order to eternally help them. As we sit before the Lord, bringing life's problems to Him, I have watched God do a marvelous work in the lives of these dear ones.

This month I also had the joy and honor to preach the closing session of a Pastor's Conference on "Revitalizing the Small Church." What a blessing to hear pastors share what they are experiencing with their people. Sometimes it is wonderful, and sometimes discouraging and dreadful. I have a heart for pastor's who sometimes feel left behind. My desire is to be an encourager to them, not in a cheering sort of way, but by being a part of seeing real spiritual growth in the lives of pastor and people. I believe with all my heart this will come as a result of knowing **the life that is hid with Christ in God.**

A dear lady writes... *"I read with interest your recent revival at West Frayser Baptist Church. The best years of my life were spent at that church. My very best friends of 40 years came from that church.... October 13th, my mother went home to be with the Lord, my father, my husband, and all the saints from West Frayser Baptist Church, who have gone on before us were there to meet her."*

My friend, help me to continue encouraging spiritual growth in churches just like this one! They are everywhere and looking for a spiritual revival. Reach back and help these churches you grew up in, by sending me and others to bring back their focus to who they are in Christ and all that they have in Him! Pray for me. Support me in this.

I returned late Sunday night from preaching a revival in Guthrie, Ky. What an absolute blessing! Sixteen people made decisions, and according to their pastor, decisions are still being made as God continues to work in the heart by the Holy Spirit in the middle of the day in the middle of the week.

"Personally, when Chris preached on the biblical truth of our identity in Christ, my eyes filled up with tears of joy as I found myself wanting to shout because of God's goodness. We have yet to see the full impact of our revival with Chris Hodges. We have seen souls saved, lives rededicated, youth and

children desiring to grow in discipleship. We have seen walls of bitterness among church members crumble to the ground as the Lord has begun his renewing work among us. We have begun to experience a ground swell of the work of the Holy Spirit in our church and community that will continue for months and years to come.” (Pastor Cheyne Day)

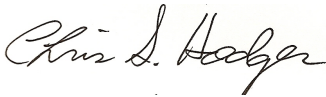
“Chris is a great speaker who keeps your attention. He doesn’t pull any punches in his preaching, but he does it in such a compassionate way that people are drawn to respond. I am thankful that I was able to attend each service and that the Lord used Chris to impact my life as a husband, father, employee, and youth worker. I have already given away ten sets of CD’s of Chris’s messages to friends and co-workers because I know their lives will be changed as well.” (Church member)

By the power of the Holy Spirit, and to the glory of God, we are seeing the encouraging work of God! Lives are being transformed and minds are being renewed!

Pray for me as I conduct a couples retreat in Halls, TN, entitled “The Encouraging Marriage.” I also travel to Georgia this month to speak at a prison in Atlanta, and also to speak at the 40th anniversary of the Mailbox Club, a wonderful discipleship ministry founded by my close and dear friend, George Eager. We use the discipleship lessons written by Bro. Eager, in our Abiding Above Discipleship School. This is done through-the-mail and it is **Free!** Write to us and we will send you a first lesson, today!

Please remember me as you think of year end giving. I need your financial support. We continue to provide free discipleship lessons and postage is expensive. We are also providing free copies of the messages I preach. We are concerned only to cover our expenses and minister directly to people where they are. The money you give goes directly to helping us help others. We are not building or maintaining anything. You my friend, put the gas in the car, sermons in the mass duplicator, discipleship materials directly in the hands of multitudes of people. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Abiding above,



President
Abiding Above Ministries
Colossians 3:1-3