



Dear Friend of *Abiding Above*,

September 2024

Thank you for praying for us and giving as the Holy Spirit leads you! Forever, you are eternally “IN CHRIST” and Christ is eternally “IN YOU.” (Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:1-11; Colossians 3:1-4).

We have already won because Christ has already died and risen again and now lives inside of every one of His children!



Another church building is going up! This type of building is the most prevalent in Kenya and is found in both larger cities and rural villages. Each of these churches can accommodate about 200 people because it's common to sit close together in Africa.



Prior to a church being planted and a building being remodeled or built from start, the leaders who have the location on their hearts from the Lord go through our multiplying, disciple-making church planting training. Over the years you have sent me to Kenya many times where we have consistently taught men how to begin this model of a church. In Kenya, I have taught conferences on “The

Disciples Identity in Christ” and “The Work of the Holy Spirit in the Disciple.” In addition, evangelistic work in this country has included preaching to the crowds in the streets and presenting the Jesus film in the evenings. We have also pursued Gospel tract distributions among the masses and have preached in prisons and in many schools, some of which have several thousand students.

Here are some past newsletters related to church planting training and church plants we have been a part of with some pictures: May 2019, July 2019, August 2019, September 2019, November 2019, February 2020, March 2020, April 2020, August 2020, April 2021, July 2021, December 2021, March 2022, November 2022, and June 2023.



Please whisper a sentence prayer as these Kenyan Christians continue until the church building is completed.

Simply put, a multiplying, disciple-making church is about everyone, not just the leaders on Sunday mornings. Leaders, along with brothers and sisters in Christ, purpose in their hearts to disciple individuals in their lives

(family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc.) Who first started and modeled this? Jesus our Lord, and Savior, with the 12 disciples. From the disciples of Jesus, the Gospel spread across the earth long before there was electricity and internet. The thought was simply, **Christ in us for others!**

It's like compound interest. You put money in a savings account and accumulate interest. Then, that interest even begins to accumulate interest. When God's children disciple others, those they disciple go on to disciple others, multiplying disciple-makers to the ends of the earth!

My friend, one day we will hear these beautiful words found in **Matthew 25:23 - Jesus said, "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'"**

It was a joy this past month to preach for my longtime friend, Jeff Patrick, at Grace Baptist Church in Millington, TN. He is presently their Interim Pastor, but he needed to be away to attend his son's ordination service at Kirby Woods Baptist Church. I spoke on one of my favorite passages, John 15:4-5, the Vine and the Branches. We could really sense God speaking to our hearts.

My friend, God loves you and so do we!

Abiding above,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris S. Hodges".

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

P.S. - Check out [Abiding Above Ministries](#) on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, X, and now iHeart Radio and Spotify. You can also download our [Abiding Above App](#) from your iPhone.