

Dear Friend of Abiding Above,

May 2025

Thank you for listening to the Holy Spirit as you pray and give. We are grateful for your helping us in the Great Commission we have all been called to by our Lord.

Matthew 28:16-20 - But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; **but some were doubtful.** And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 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."

Thank you for not being doubtful, but believing, having trust and faith. As you abide in Him we are able to fulfill what we believe God has laid on our hearts. Together, we are making an impact in this present world system by the power of the Holy Spirit and to the glory of God. Not everyone can go, but everyone plays an equal role as they **listen and abide in Him Who is our Life**. Our motive is love for God, and yes, there will also be an eternal reward in heaven.



Matthew 16:26-27 - *"For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and will then repay every man according to his deeds."*

We recently presented, **"The Jesus Film"** in the Mississippi Delta, to a town known as Crenshaw. This film is the most watched film in history. It has been translated now into more than 2,000 languages! Therefore, it's been shown all over the world!

If you remember from our social media posts and our newsletter, we tried to present this film in Crenshaw in December, 2024, but were rained out. We were disappointed, yes, but at the same time we were curious about what God was up to. This time, we watched God hold back the rain that was forecast and we were able to show it in its entirety to a small group of people. We assume others did not come because of potential rain, but we heard many who did come as they prayed to receive Christ while I led in the Sinner's Prayer just after the crucifixion scene.

Interesting, many years ago, as God was leading me into full-time ministry, I was an engineer for the railroad. As you can see in this picture, there is a railroad track in the background. A train came passing through during the film, bell ringing and whistle blowing! The people were used to trains coming through; it seemed to not bother them at all. This reminded me of something Dr. Charles Stanley said to me many years ago when I told him I was leaving the railroad as a train engineer and entering seminary at Mid-America in Memphis, TN. Dr. Stanley said, *"Son, you're going to be a real engineer now."* God knew what He was doing all along, when I was uncertain about His calling me to full-time ministry. Praise the Lord I felt led to step out of the boat, walk on water, and not look down.

Never would I have realized that on April 6, 2009 we would launch our first radio program on Bott Radio Network in Memphis, TN. We have also launched many more across America! Sixteen years and counting, all because of our Father and you!

I always enjoy the occasions when I am invited to be the guest speaker for Awaken Bible Study in the early morning hours on Tuesdays. If you would like to hear these messages you can visit us on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/@abidingaboveministries8173 and look under the playlist titled AWAKEN TO CHRIST IN YOU.

Later, that same day I was the guest speaker for the first time at the West Memphis Christian School in West Memphis, AR. I shared my personal testimony and parts of a popular message I do with high school students in Kenya, Africa entitled, "You Can, If You Will." They told me it was truly a blessing and, I can say, it truly blessed me to be there and encouraged me in this - God is not finished with our young people. I'm believing more is yet to come from them in the days just ahead. Could it be, another Billy Graham is about to come on the scene with a life surrendered to God, a life that God will use in a way that only He can? Pray for this!

Please be in prayer as I will be out of the country in Kenya and in India preaching the gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in schools and prisons and also doing multiple pastors' conferences where I will be preaching on the subject of who we are and what we have in Christ Jesus. I will be doing this day after day for about 1 month, my longest trip ever.

Our Father Who art in heaven and you make all these things possible!

To God be the glory great things He continues to do! May God continue to bless you and make you a blessing as you have been to me!

Abiding above,

Chris S. Hodges

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P.S. And as always, check out <u>Abiding Above Ministries</u> on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, X, and now, on iHeart Radio and Spotify. You can also download our <u>Abiding Above App</u> from your iPhone.