



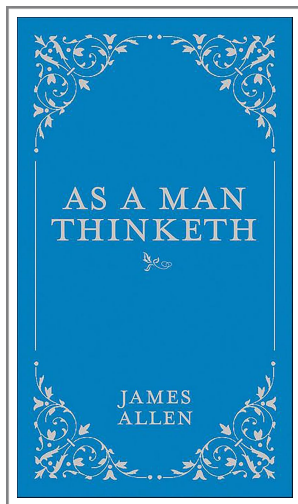
Dear Friend of *Abiding Above*,

September 2026

This month I would like to share with you some materials which could be helpful as you walk with our Lord.

An Important Thought and an Influential Book

For many years now, I have preached every other Tuesday at Memphis Union Mission. As I have ministered there, during all these years, there is a verse that has never left my mind.



“For as he thinks within himself, so he is.” Proverbs 23:7

This simple thought from Proverbs 23:7 is one I encourage the men to consider and practice day by day as they go through life. No matter the subject I preach on, I mention the importance of being careful how you think. How we think determines what we do next, and that will determine what we accomplish and that will lead to how we feel.

The importance of a proper thought life was brought to my attention when I was still a young boy. My mother kept a small, devotional book in a prominent place and often encouraged us to read it. She used to say, “Just read portions of it as you see it sitting there.” The book, written by James Allen, was entitled, As A Man Thinketh.

There are many simple and basic principles in this book. Many of these are based on Scriptures we have heard since childhood. The verses are not always referenced, but they are clearly seen. I do not agree with every sentence in the book, but most of the content is just good, worthwhile material. If you would like to read this book or hear its audio version just google the title and author and you will be given links to the available platforms.

An Aid in Understanding Spiritual Gifts

One of the greatest discoveries I have ever made, after salvation and understanding the teaching of “Christ In Me”, was discovering my spiritual gift of exhortation (encouragement).

I learned this from Dr. Adrian Rogers as he taught a very important series on this and included a handout where you could read about the seven motivational spiritual gifts and take a survey to discover clearly how and why God made you just the way you are! Go to our website at abidingabove.org and check out the link for spiritual gifts under Resources.

Bible Lessons



Many years ago, as I was living in an apartment above the study of Dr. Stephen Olford, the Founder of Encounter Ministries, someone put in my mailbox a simply written Bible lesson by George Eager, Founder of The Mailbox Club Ministry. Though I was finishing my college education, I did these lessons one by one and realized how much clearer things I had known from God's Word became to me. The teaching on Galatians 2:20, Romans 6:1-11, & Colossians 3:1-3 was especially helpful!

Many years later, I discovered that Mrs. Joyce Rogers, Dr. Adrian Rogers' wife, loved these lessons and had personally taken all of her children through them. She also taught them to hundreds of other children in the churches Dr. Rogers pastored.

If you would like to sign up for a lesson just send us your name, address, and the ages of any children/adult who is interested. (These lessons are tailored to individuals of different ages.) So that you can benefit, just contact us by email at info@abidingabove.org and we would be happy to send a first lesson to you and any of your family or friends who might appreciate it. Just complete the lesson and mail it back to us to be graded and we will return your graded lesson back to you with your next lesson.

Our prayer is that the resources offered above will be a blessing!

My friend, thank you for praying for us and listening to the Holy Spirit as you give. Forever, we are in Christ and Christ is in us! Together, let's keep in step with the Spirit!

Abiding above,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris S. Hodges". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'C' and 'H'.

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

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

Donating to Abiding Above Ministries is now easier!

SECURE and CONVENIENT: You can now [donate](#) to Abiding Above Ministries using Credit/Debit/Bank as well as PayPal or VENMO. Just scan the QR code pictured below right from your smartphone.

DONATE <https://abidingabove.org/ways-to-give/>



Credit/Debit/ACH



PAYPAL



VENMO

***All donations are tax deductible.**