



New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community

www.newliferiders.com

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Dear Friends,

We have really been blessed with some beautiful riding weather in between the raindrops! I was telling my wife Kathy how great it felt to be back on the road after her spine surgery. I just don't enjoy the ride without her being with me. Earlier this week a friend jokingly told me I probably couldn't find my way home without her.

Jesus told a story about a fellow who was alone on the road to Jericho. The narration was prompted by a question from an expert in the law who asked what he had to do to gain eternal life. Jesus responded by asking, "What is written in the law?" The lawyer replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself." Jesus told him he had answered correctly. However, the lawyer, looking for a loophole, asked, "Who is my neighbor anyway?" Then Jesus gave the account of what has become known as the parable of the "Good Samaritan." Visualize the Samaritan as a biker.

The road from Jerusalem to Jericho descended some 3,000 feet in a distance of about 17 miles. I picture it leading through rough, desolate country, with quite a few potholes and large rocks that provided places for robbers to hide and prey upon unsuspecting travelers. I have no idea why anyone would be traveling alone in such a dangerous situation. However, there was such a guy. He was mugged, robbed, and left half-dead. Two of the religious elite, a Priest and a Levite, each looked the other way as they came upon the suffering victim. It has been argued they would have been considered ceremonially unclean and not be able to perform their duties in the Temple if they touched a dead man. No matter how you look at it, they placed the letter of the law above love and compassion.

Then the Samaritan came along. Samaritans were despised and considered inferior. As bikers, we can identify because I'm sure at one time or another, we have all felt less than appreciated just because of our appearance and our means of transportation. I can see the Samaritan taking his first-aid kit out of his saddle bag. The Bible says he poured wine and oil on the wounds, put the poor man on his own beast, and took him to a nearby inn. When he had to go his own way the next day, he left the equivalent of almost two months wages, telling the innkeeper if more were needed he would pay the bill on his return.

When he finished the story, Jesus asked who the real neighbor was. The lawyer replied, "The one who helped." Jesus told him to go and do likewise.

We bikers, modern day Samaritans, have many opportunities to help others that we meet along the way.

My friends, I would encourage you to get to know Jesus in a personal way. If you haven't asked Him into your heart and life, this would be an excellent time to do so.

The New Life Riders ride with the threefold purpose of sharing the love of Jesus with all whom we meet, serving God and the Community and enjoying the ride. You don't have to join or belong to any particular organization to be part of our ministry. Please feel especially invited to come out and fellowship with us. We want you and your family to know that everyone is welcome. Take a night off from dinner responsibilities and join us for good food and great fellowship at our next meeting on Friday, June 7th at 6:30pm at Bob Evans Restaurant, 6102 Cambridge Way, located off Route 267, just north of Route 70, Plainfield, Indiana 46168.

I am pleased to say Lynn Brown will be presenting the devotions at our June meeting. Her thoughts are always inspiring. I am so happy that many of you have volunteered to address the group with a message that is on your heart.

Kathy and I enjoyed the event at Mann's Harley Davidson in Edinburgh benefitting the Bartholomew County Humane Society. It was great chatting with the riders and the staff at Mann's and giving them angel pins and gospels of John with the cross and flag pins attached. We were blessed by the friendliness of all who were in attendance.

We didn't ride Gideon on Sunday, May 19th knowing we would be in heavy rain and strong winds. Thy say discretion is the better part of valor. When we arrived at Mayberry in the Midwest, many of the vendors were wisely attempting to pack up their tents and canopies that were blowing around in the wind. We were there for the morning Bible study. Our friend, Steve Pyatte, gave a great message based on the characters from the Andy Griffith Show accompanied by scripture. Sitting on the courthouse wall in the rain, looking at the main stage, was like being in a windy, heavy downpour on the bike with the exception that we were listening to a great speaker with a beautiful message.

We update the New Life Riders website www.newliferiders.com frequently. Please keep checking it for biking events and activities that you can attend and let your light shine for Jesus. Be a blessing! Don't underestimate your ability to make a difference in someone's life and don't miss any opportunity to make an impact on the world. May you be blessed as you ride, work and witness for Him.

I'll end by saying it's great to be "On the Road Again" as Willie Nelson used to sing. Kathy and I are looking forward to the many upcoming rides.

We hope to see all of you on June 7th at the meeting!

Until next time...

*God bless
Riding with Jesus,
Bob Dillon*

***Jesus said, "Go into the world. Go everywhere and announce the Message of God's good news to one and all."
Mark 16:15 (The Message)***