



New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community

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Dear Friends,

Before I say anything, I don't want to forget to tell you that our meeting scheduled for July 3rd has been cancelled. Several of our members have plans to celebrate the Fourth of July with their families.

As we observe this patriotic holiday, please pray with me for our military: "Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect and bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform. Bless those family members who await their safe return and those who mourn the ones who have given the ultimate sacrifice. They need your loving and comforting touch. Lord bless our veterans who have given so much. In the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, Amen".

Also may we remember to pray for all in Charleston, South Carolina.

Especially lift up the families and friends of those who lost their lives in the horrific massacre at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. May the God of all comfort wrap His loving arms around them.

On a happier note, what a joy to be riding again, inhaling the fragrant air and going through tree covered roads. Yes, I am back on Gideon! What a great feeling it was throwing my leg over and sitting down on that comfortable leather seat. The thrill never wears off!

I found it strange that some of my friends actually asked me if I were planning to ride again. I know it was only out of their concern for me knowing how serious my surgery was. However, I truly believe I am (we are) doing the Lord's will riding, and attending various motorcycle events.

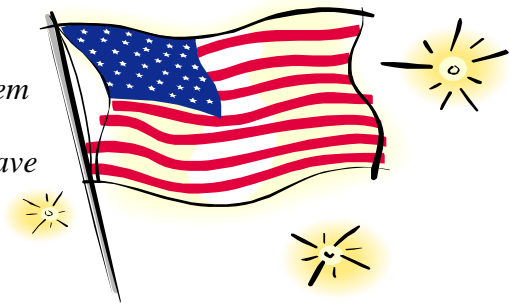
Thinking back to 1969 when, my wife, Kathy, and I first met several Christian Bikers/Motorcyclists. I thought they were crazy. They called their club "Christian Wheels." They talked about how they went in Bars to preach God's Word. They also attended many wild motorcycle rallies and hill climbs. This was at a time when Biker and Christian were never spoken in the same sentence. It took a little while, but we got the concept. We are sent by God to serve. "Ministry is the work of God by the people of God."

By 1970 Kathy and I had a bike. That first bike has a story all its own. I am sure some of you may have already heard it. I won't go into it now.

*A few years ago, I shared the following verses from First Corinthians with those who were attending a Disciple Bible Class at our church. I thought the passage describes what we (you and I) are trying to do in motorcycle ministry -**Serving All People**.*

The Apostle Paul wrote, " ¹⁹ For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; ²⁰ and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; ²¹ to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; ²² to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. ²³ Now this I do for the Gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you." (1 Corinthians 9:19-23)

This is the way Eugene Peterson paraphrased those same verses in The Message. "Even though I am free of the demands and expectations of everyone, I have voluntarily become a servant to any and all in order to



reach a wide range of people: religious, nonreligious, meticulous moralists, loose-living immoralists, the defeated, the demoralized—whoever. I didn't take on their way of life. I kept my bearings in Christ, but I entered their world and tried to experience things from their point of view. I've become just about every sort of servant there is in my attempts to lead those I meet into a God-saved life. I did all this because of the Message. I didn't just want to talk about it, I wanted to be in on it!" (1 Corinthians:9:19 -23.)

Our New Life Riders Website, New Life Riders Ministry Brochure, and Letterhead state we ride with the purpose of serving God and the Community. You have heard me say that you don't have to join or belong to any particular organization to be part of our group. However, when we ask Jesus into our hearts and lives, He gives us meaning and purpose. He has special work for each of us to do. The Lord spoke to Moses telling him, "Indeed for this purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth." (Exodus 9:16) We may not be called to lead a nation to freedom like Moses. The tasks the Lord sets before us may seem insignificant, but don't be discouraged, be assured they are important to God. They are part of His plan and purpose for us.

Our purpose and calling may not constitute physical danger like the Apostle Paul experienced although we can't be sure of that. There may be risk and even the possibility of rejection involved. But we are all part of God's plan; each of us has a reason to be alive. God has an eternal purpose for every one of us. When God calls you to a ministry, what qualifies you is your love for the people, not your brilliance, not your eloquence, but your willingness to love the people.

Our value to Him is not based on the degrees behind our names, or how much money we have in the bank, or even the brand of bike we ride. We are valuable to God because we are part of His creation. He brings us to a place where He asks us to be our very best for Him. We, too, have been called "for such a time as this." The Prophet Micah said with confidence, "When I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me." (Micah 7:8.) In telling his early followers that He was the light of the world, Jesus was clearly declaring Himself as the Messiah. Jesus makes the same awesome claim to us. "I am the light of the world." He bids us to walk in His Light and to let our light so shine that others may see our good works so that the Father will be glorified.

As you go out to be Jesus to a lost world, make sure what you give them is Jesus. Remember what Jesus said in John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me". This is where the rubber hits the road. There is no other way to the Father. My brothers and sisters, heed His call and go forth with a pure heart, and the love of Jesus! Amen.

The New Life Riders look forward to seeing you at our next dinner meeting on Friday, August 7th at 6:30 P.M. at Bob Evans Restaurant, 25 South High School Road (located at the corner of High School Road and US 36, Indianapolis. Please feel especially invited to come out and fellowship with us. We want you and your family to know that everyone is welcome.

For information regarding upcoming events, please check the New Life Riders website www.newliferiders.com frequently for places where you can let your light shine for Jesus.

May you be blessed as you work and witness for Him this riding season.

*God bless
Riding with Jesus,
Bob Dillon*

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (NIV)