

## New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community
<a href="https://www.newliferiders.com">www.newliferiders.com</a>
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Dear Friends.

"Hey Mom! I'm bored! I have nothing to do!" Words often expressed by children as their summer vacation draws to a close. It's August but certainly not a boring time for bikers. In fact, I would venture to say that the words "bored" and "biker" should never appear in the same sentence. With the wind in our faces, we revel in the beauty around us as was take to the back roads on these hot August days.

There are plenty of worthwhile places to ride. If you need some suggestions, please check all the events listed on the New Life Riders website, <a href="www.newliferiders.com">www.newliferiders.com</a>. On any given weekend, there are many rides right here in the Indianapolis area. It would be humanly impossible to attend them all, but it is really enjoyable trying!

My wife, Kathy, and I feel blessed to be able to ride with a two-fold purpose. The first is to share Jesus' love with all whom we meet along the way. Secondly, we ride to raise awareness and funds for innumerable good causes. Over the next several weeks, some ministry opportunities include the ABATE State Charity Regional Rides, the Steve Bannon Memorial Ride to benefit the Make a Wish Foundation, and Motorcycles on Meridian. There are also many other rallies, festivals, biking events and smaller rides for the purpose of helping local causes and individuals who are in need.

And talk about blessings! Kathy and I just returned from a wonderful two thousand mile ride to the east coast. We dubbed it our "hug tour" stopping along the way to see friends and relatives.

Our first stop was in Ohio where the church our daughter, Robin, pastors was having Vacation Bible School. We had been invited to talk about Christian Motorcycling with the various classes. The pre-school children were really bright and observant. One little guy, not yet four-years old, walked around Gideon, our trike, a couple of times and then announced, "You don't have a kick-stand!" Kids are great!

We stayed in the Pocono Mountains with our daughter and son-in-law, Gary and Kathy. They took us on a side trip to Jerry's Classic Cars and Collectibles Museum located in a former Studebaker dealership in Pottsville, PA. What a wonderful trip back in time to the glory days of the fifties and sixties! If you are ever in the area, I would really recommend stopping in. The cars and collectibles will stir fond memories of the past!

We used Kathy and Gary's place as "home base" as we traveled about. It was such a blessing visiting with former neighbors and friends from the church we belonged to when we lived in the Poconos.

A former co-worker of mine and his wife were celebrating their birthdays. Their children arranged a truly exceptional surprise party for them. We attempted to "hide" Gideon in the bushes in front of their home. As he was entering the house, my friend spied the trike, but said to his wife, "That can't be Bob's, I don't think he would have ridden from Indiana." It was fun being part of the surprise and the festivities.

We knew that several of the people we wanted to see were in poor health. Kathy's mentor from her very first job and her husband are in their eighties. They were delighted to see us as were my cousin and her husband who is not doing well health wise either. Due to time constraints, we didn't get to visit everyone we wanted to see. We feel badly about that.

We were blessed with safe travels and good weather. We followed about two hours behind some really inclement weather on our way east. It rained three nights during the trip, but we had gorgeous days for riding.

When we heard that torrential downpours were predicted the next day, we rode the last five hundred miles on Tuesday and were safe at home when the deluge began Wednesday morning!

Praise God, He gives us energy to ride with a purpose! Every time we stopped for gas, someone approached us engaging in conversation about riding, the trike, or why we call it Gideon. It is always a joy to talk about the Lord as these openings present themselves. We handed out a lot of Testaments, Gospels of John and angel pins along the way.

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 in Exodus 9:16 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." We may not be called to lead a nation to freedom like Moses. The tasks He 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.

Esther, in the Old Testament, was a young woman who had the courage to answer God's call. The story is full of intrigue. When Esther was taken to the palace to be presented to the king, her cousin, Mordecai, who had raised her, told her not to reveal her nationality. She had the opportunity to prevent the massacre of her people. Mordecai said to her, "Who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this" Esther 4:14. He is essentially saying, "Look Esther, if you don't do anything, the Lord will find another human source to help. You'll miss the blessing. Esther fulfilled her purpose and her people were saved.

The Apostle Paul wrote to his young protégé, Timothy, "Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings of the Gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began". 2 Timothy 1:8-10.

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. 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."

Remember, the word "bored" has no place in a biker's life! Don't miss any opportunity to make an impact on the world. May you be blessed as you ride, work and witness for Him.

As always, I look forward to seeing you at the New Life Riders dinner meeting this Friday at 6:30 PM, August first at the Bob Evans Restaurant, 25 South High School Road (Located at the corner of High School Road and U.S. 36, Indianapolis).

See you down the road!

God bless Riding with Jesus, Bob Dillon