

## New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community
<a href="https://www.newliferiders.com">www.newliferiders.com</a>
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## June 2021

Dear Friends,

Wow! It is June already. Can you believe it?

With it being June I felt compelled to focus on Father's Day. I thought of the three men who were very influential in my life. All three are home with Jesus.

My Pop (Grandfather) John Hensel became the male parental figure in my life at the age of sixteen months when my biological father died.

My Dad Joseph Gounder became my foster father (I don't like the term Stepfather) a month before I turned fourteen. I was honored to be "Best Man" when he married my mother.

My Father-in-law Edward Loeb and I had a great relationship. There wasn't anything he couldn't do when it came to home repairs. He had his hands full teaching me the tricks of home repair.

I can't tell you how much I loved these three men. They were my mentors. I could never thank them for what they taught me.

But now I would like to talk about a man, a parental figure who is seldom mentioned. Jesus' foster father Joseph.

Growing up, just like every child, Jesus needed parental guidance. It is hard for us to accept that Jesus was human. When he came to earth he became man. "While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them." Luke 2:6-7 (NIV)

My heart tells me Joseph was devoted to Jesus. I believe he was a large part of Jesus' life. What I have read in the Bible about Joseph I consider it to be fact. However, there is a lack of information, and I found that very disappointing. The 13 New Testament books written by Paul make no reference to him at all, nor does the Gospel of Mark. Joseph first appears in the Bible in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. Matthew traces Joseph's lineage back to King David.

The Gospels also tell us that both Joseph and Jesus were carpenters. We can assume that Joseph taught his trade/craft to Jesus. This again is why I believe they had very close relationship.

More than likely Joseph died before Jesus' ministry began, and it is implied that he was dead before the Crucifixion. "Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman,

behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home." John 19:25-27 (NKJV)

Some scholars say Jesus was probably somewhere between 12 and 19 years old when His foster father died.

You and I know that Jesus is the Son of God. God's hand guided him. However, I also believe Joseph's parental, loving, hands were on Jesus throughout his life.

I pray you had a man in your life who was a Mentor and Counselor. Someone who taught you to consider the playing field of life, just like the three men in my life.

If I may be so bold, I suggest that before you do anything else today, you call, if it is possible, that special man in your life. Let him know how much you love him. I am sure he would enjoy hearing from you.

Those of you who frequently check our website <u>www.newliferiders.com</u> you will see we have twelve biking activities/events listed for this month. Both in and out of state.

Two of the local rides that I recommend are the **Boone County 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Scenic Ride** on June 12<sup>th.</sup> and the **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Hogs for Hounds Ride and Adoption Event** on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Both are Sponsored by Hendricks County, Region 11, ABATE.

Keep checking the Events Page for activities that you can attend and let your light shine for Jesus. Remember, if because of time or distance, you are unable to attend the listed activities, and you know of one closer to your home, go there and share the love of Jesus.

We are engaged in ministry and service in whatever we do. The gifts and talents the Lord has given us are not for ourselves, but to be extended to others. May you be blessed as you ride, work and live for Him!

Continue to pray for our country, our troops, firefighters, law enforcement officers, first responders, all those in the medical field and everyone who is serving to keep us safe!

May God smile upon your life so that your smile reflects God's presence in it. As always, I look forward to seeing you down the road!

God bless.
Riding with Jesus,
Bob Dillon
www.newliferiders.com



Please watch for my emails, prayer requests and updates!

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)