

New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community
www.newliferiders.com
Gideon1520@Gmail.com

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Dear Friends.

Many of you have asked if Kathy and I have sold Gideon. Well, the answer is yes. With Kathy's health issues she can no longer ride. I don't want to ride without her, so selling Gideon was the best option. We have many good memories. We will still attend and support our local Biker events when possible. Plus, the New Life Riders are still a "TEAM," though many have serious illnesses and need our prayers.

I praise God that He gave Kathy and me the strength and energy to ride with a purpose! Over the years people have asked us about the name; you may have been one of them. It gave us the opportunity to relate the story of Gideon found in chapters six through eight in the book of Judges in the Bible. You may recall that Israel had been under virtual siege by the Midianites for several years. I like the way it reads in Eugene Peterson's The Message. Gideon was threshing wheat in the winepress, out of sight of the Midianites. The angel of God appeared to him and said, "God is with you, O mighty warrior!"

Gideon replied, "With me, my master? If GOD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all the miracle-wonders our parents and grandparents told us about, telling us, 'Didn't GOD deliver us from Egypt?' The fact is, GOD has nothing to do with us-he has turned us over to Midian."

But God faced him directly: "Go in this strength that is yours. Save Israel from Midian. Haven't I just sent you?"

Gideon said to him, "Me, my master? How and with what could I ever save Israel? Look at me. My clan's the weakest in Manasseh and I'm the runt of the litter."

The Lord promised to be with each of His servants in Bible times and He promises to be with each one of us today. Just as he told Joshua so long ago, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." Joshua 1:9

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 absolute best for Him. We, too, have been called "for such a time as this."

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, www.newliferiders.com. 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!

Go into the world, don't just have a voice, but a voice that is given by God that is different from the rest of the world's voices.

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.

God bless.
Riding with Jesus,
Bob Dillon



Let your smile change the world, but don't let the world change your smile!

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)