



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

October 2022

Dear Friends,

Recently, some of you have been telling me of your concern about the rate of inflation. I know that inflation is being discussed on the news and seems to be on everyone's mind right now.

When you ask questions like, "What's going to happen to my savings?" or "How will I take care of my family?" I can only say, God knows what you need, even before you ask Him, and he loves you more than you can imagine. He reminds you of His ability to provide for you in Philippians (4:19), "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

These are difficult days for many of us, and I understand how you feel. No matter how rough the economic outlook gets, you can stay in the peace that comes from walking in God's Word and applying His principles.

Money is a sensitive topic in all phases of society. The Bible has a lot to say about money and material wealth. Frankly, much of it is not particularly popular. As you are all aware, we worked or work hard for our salary. Many of us are retired and on a tight budget. Many use the term "Fixed Income". So why should we be asked to give so much away?

The Old Testament Book of Ecclesiastes (5:10) offers this tidbit of wisdom: "Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income." Isn't that the truth! An obsession with money and material possessions only increases our desire for more, until it all becomes a futile and frustrating pursuit. We're happy to give a portion of our earnings to the church, the many charity rides/events we attend and other worthy causes. But do we really have to give away everything?

I don't know about you, but Kathy and I admit we had too much when we found ourselves selling our home and moving to Pennsylvania. We gave so much away. However, we were glad to do it. We were so happy that there were people nearby who could use our excess stuff. All this extra stuff would never have fit in our new apartment.

If you look in Scripture for guidance, you will come across a familiar passage in the Gospel of Matthew (19:21-26), "when Jesus said to the inquiring young man, 'If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.' When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth."

Most of us can relate to the dilemma of the young man because we put such a heavy emphasis on wealth and material possessions, especially in our retired years.

It all depends on how literally we interpret the passage. Remember Jesus says in the passage, "If you want to be perfect..." We all know that none of us are perfect. I'm not sure we have to give up all that we own to reach the Kingdom of Heaven, however, we are definitely called on to be generous and to help with those in need. What I think Jesus wants is for us to give completely of ourselves to him.

In Matthew (22:37-40), he says: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

To me, that is the essence of the total commitment that Jesus really seeks from all of us. Everything in this world will one day pass away, so rather than focus on our wants, it is best to focus on our needs and just as importantly the needs of others.

You and I know that the ever-changing state of our world has sent shockwaves through our communities. And one thing is for sure, people need all that Jesus has for them and you can share it with them! God commands us to share it with them. The New Life Riders have been called to serve our community and make disciples.

"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope..., His glorious inheritance..., His incomparably great power for us who believe." Ephesians. (1:17-19)

May God smile upon your life so that the smile in your life reflects God's presence in it.

As always, I look forward to seeing you down the road. Love Jesus, be thankful and keep doing the good stuff.

God bless. Riding with Jesus, Bob Dillon <u>www.newliferiders.com</u>



God bless America

Please watch for my emails, prayer requests and updates.

On a humorous note: "Getting older. I used to be able to run a 4-minute mile, bench press 380 pounds, and tell the truth."

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)