

## New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community
<a href="https://www.newliferiders.com">www.newliferiders.com</a>
Gideon1520@Gmail.com

## August 2024

Dear Friends,

Have you seen all of the TV ads about the upcoming Summer Olympics in Paris, France? I am impressed by the athletes' stories of overcoming obstacles and seeing their strength and determination. I enjoy watching them compete and achieve their lifelong dreams of winning an Olympic medal.

Watching these events reminds me of the Apostle Paul's letter to the church in Philippi, when he writes in chapter 3:

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

You and I are also in a race and pressing toward the finish line. In Hebrews 12: 2 we read, "Looking to Jesus," or in some of the newer translations, "Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus." Jesus must be the focal point of our lives. He is truly the Author and Perfecter of our faith! When we look to Jesus, we are enveloped in His encouraging love, and we begin to let go of those things that weigh us down.

When we watch Olympic runners, we see that they wear lightweight clothing and shoes; they don't want heavy things to weigh them down and keep them from running their best race. In a spiritual sense, we also need to "Forget what is behind (all those things that burden, hurt and weigh us down) and press toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Running requires discipline. We can't live haphazard lives and be champions. Paul said that he kept himself in constant training. Running also requires precision and accuracy. We must come to the cross by faith and receive Jesus into our hearts. Jesus said, "No one can see the Kingdom of God unless they are born again" (John 3:3).

Running also has rules and without them, there would be chaos and confusion. The race of life also has rules, and the Bible is our rulebook. We learn how the Lord wants us to live when we read and study it. Jesus said, "If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love,

just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love" (John 15:10). Life is not a practice run or a qualifying race; life is serious and one of these days we will arrive at that finish line and come face to face with Jesus. It is my prayer that as each one of us finishes the race we will bring all those to whom we have witnessed onto the "medal podium" with us.

I urge all of us to heed that heavenward call and OK, so I knew how many more I had to print. encourage others to do so, too. God wants to use us to make a difference in the lives of the people in our motorcycle community.

Confirm the status of all events before making plans to attend. Ride through life in love, hope and patience, pressing on, trusting in God, and always faithful in prayer. Please stay healthy and safe. Prayerfully decide where you will be most effective. Don't miss any opportunity to make an impact for Jesus.

Please 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!

During this riding season, remember to shine for Him and reflect His love to all those around you and keep on doing the good stuff. As always, I look forward to seeing you down the road!

Until next time...

Riding with Jesus,
Bob Dillon
www.newliferiders.com



## A thought for today ...

If God could
close the lions' mouth for Daniel,
part the Red Seas for Moses,
make the sun stand still for Joshua,
open the prison for Peter,
put a baby in the arms of Sarah,
and raise Lazarus from the dead,
then He can certainly take care of you!
Nothing you are facing today is too hard for Him to handle!

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)