



New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community

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Dear Friends,

It is my prayer that all of you will feel God's presence during this beautiful and joyful season. One of the things I really enjoy about the Christmas season, especially now that I'm living here at the Manor is receiving cards and letters from people I do not have the pleasure of seeing very often and finding out what has been going on in their lives. The joy of hearing about weddings, new babies, and the fantastic scenic rides they have taken during the year is always special. "It's the most Joyful time of the year!" Just for the fun of it, ask any of your friends what is the most joyful time of the year.

In 1719 Isaac Watts wrote a hymn that came to be titled "Joy To The World." Now the interesting thing about this carol is that the only stanza related to Christmas and the birth of Jesus is the first one that now announces the Lord is come. There is no mention of Mary and Joseph, the angels, the shepherds, the manger, or even the wise men. Yet, it is one of the most beloved Christmas carols because it really captures the essence of Christmas, which is universal joy.

Please pick up your Bible and read Luke 2:8-20... How wonderful and thoroughly remarkable that the Good News of Jesus' birth was first announced to the shepherds! To ordinary working people. Not the kings, not the priests, not the scribes nor the Pharisees, but it was to the shepherds, simple men of the fields that God's message first came!

In an Advent study several years ago, the pastor at my home church in Indiana asked everyone in the class which of the characters in the nativity story we most related to. The responses were varied. Kathy and I shared that because of our ministry to motorcyclists, we felt a special bond with the shepherds.

Let's take a minute or two and think about those first-century Palestinian shepherds and what the biker might have in common with them. First of all, they were stereotyped as being a rather "rough crowd" with a poor reputation. The stereotypical biker is aware of being looked down on or snubbed simply because of his mode of transportation. Shepherds were considered unreliable. I think the general feeling of the time was that they were OK to tend your sheep, but you wouldn't want your daughter to marry one of them.

Go, and share the love of Jesus. Be a blessing! Don't miss any opportunity to make an impact on the world. No matter what your abilities or gifts are, Jesus will use them to reach people for Him.

It is my prayer that you have trusted in the One who came to purchase our salvation. If not, during this Advent/Christmas season would be an excellent time to ask him into your heart and life.

I wish all of you God's richest blessings during this joyous Christmas season. May His spirit fill your home with peace, joy and love. I pray that you will be abundantly blessed with good health and safe riding in the New Year.



As always, I look forward to seeing you down the road!

Please pray for our country, our nation's leaders. 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 the smile in your life reflects God's presence in it. Until next time, love Jesus, be thankful and keep doing the good stuff.

*God bless.
Serving God and Community
Bob Dillon
www.newliferiders.com*



God bless America

Please Note Regardless of our age, we are to rejoice in the glory of the Lord. Therefore, we can live life to the fullest, actively share the Good News with others, and be prepared when He calls us home.*

*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)*