



Vision Riders

June 08 Newsletter



What are you passionate about?

I experienced my first full weekend at the Harley Drags this year. I got to meet a lot of people and observe a lot of things. One person that will stay with me is a young man named Dane. I met Dane on Saturday morning when he came over for some coffee and I immediately noticed he had one leg missing. Our conversation led to how he had lost his left leg in a motorcycle accident. He was riding an old Harley that was pieced together from several different years and wasn't all shiny, clean and chromed out. We had a general conversation and after a few minutes he thanked us for the coffee and returned to his campsite. That afternoon I got to thinking about how in the world he could ride a bike with only one leg. After we set up again Sunday morning, I noticed he was up and sitting on his bike, so I walked over to see how he had rigged his bike in order to be able to ride it with only one leg. I was impressed by his ingenuity on re-routing the shift lever to the right side so he could operate the shift and brake pedals with his good right leg. As we talked he began to tell me more about his accident and how it had changed his life. He spoke about how much he loved the bike that he wrecked, how he would have bought it a ring and married it if he could. But the accident caused him to realize that the bike was just a possession and like all things, it will fade and fail. He told me about how much support his friends had given him after his accident and during his recovery. He came to realize that his passion was not with the machine as much as it was with the love of riding. We had a wonderful conversation that resulted in both of us witnessing to each other. I figure Dan and Mitch probably thought that I had given up on helping them, but the time seemed to fly by so fast. It started getting busy again so I went back to help with the coffee for awhile. Just before leaving, Dane came back over to thank us for the coffee and to thank CMA for being there that weekend and how he and others really appreciated us being there. As we said our goodbyes, I told him I would really like to see him in September and he told me he would be there. A bit later he had packed up his stuff and was getting ready to leave. I watched as he went through the things he had to do in order to get his bike moving. As he went out of sight it struck me how passionate he was about his love of riding. How it did not matter how fancy the equipment was or how it may have appeared to other people or how difficult it was to ride. I also wondered about what it would be like if we were as passionate about our witness and work for the Lord as Dane was about his love for riding. We need to evaluate what we are really passionate about. It is not about the chrome, the lights, the brand name. It is about the passion and desire we should have to help our fellow man that makes the difference.

Thanks for the lesson Dane and I really look forward to seeing you in September.

Richard Durham

SPYDERS' WEB

After hearing a comment by one of the Chapter members the other night I started thinking about friendships/relationships. I'm sure most of us have had bad experiences with people who we thought were our friends only to find later that wasn't the case. If you think back on this how did it affect you? Do you see now where the bad choices were made and how they could have been avoided? If I had been where God wanted me I probably would have made wiser decisions about those people and could have avoided some heartache. So much is made of the right kinds of friendships in the Bible that we can't afford to treat this part of our lives lightly. Proverbs 12:26 says "the righteous should choose their friends carefully". I always told my children that they would be judged by the company they kept and I guess I wasn't too far off even though they thought I was.

The main quality to look for in a close friend is not how they look, how wealthy, how popular or how smart they are but how is their relationship with God. The person who will do what it takes to live in God's will is the kind of friend who will show God's love every time you are around them.

God doesn't want us to be tied to unbelievers but that doesn't mean we shouldn't have anything to do with people who don't know the Lord. Case in point was the ride that some of us participated in last Saturday. We should be God's conduit to reach these people. But our closest relationships need to be with people who love and fear the Lord. If you don't have close friends who are believers then pray for those people to come into your life. I found a list of Seven Good Signs of a Desirable Friend:

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| 1. Tells you the truth in love | (Proverbs 27:6) |
| 2. Gives you sound advice | (Proverbs 27:9) |
| 3. Refines you | (Proverbs 27:17) |
| 4. Helps you grow in wisdom | (Proverbs 13:20) |
| 5. Stays close to you | (Proverbs 18:24) |
| 6. Loves you & stands by you | (Proverbs 17:17) |
| 7. A help in time of trouble | (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10) |

Ask God to make you a good friend to others and give you a loving heart in your relationships. Pray for Godly people to come into your life. Don't force relationships to happen, Pray for them to happen. This doesn't mean we have to have large numbers of friends because there can be great strength in small numbers when the people are strong in the Lord. The quality of your relationships is more important than the quantity. The quality of your relationships will determine the quality of your life. And this is something worth praying about. I pray that as a group we will become the friends God wants us to be and may we reach out to make new friends. May God bless each friendship and may His will be done in each one. May we release all our relationships to God and pray that His will be done in each one of them.

In His service,
Spyder

Prayer Requests:

- Leisha Barke as she continues to battle cancer.
- Donna Smith's mother with health problems.
- Micah Watkins as he recovers from surgery.
- Barb Polston who has kidney stones again.
- Mitch Collings mother with cancer treatments.
- Our local, state and national CMA leaders.

Upcoming Events:

- Fellowship Ride July, 6 1:30 p.m. Carol's Food Mart
- Chapter meeting July 10, 7:00 p.m. at Phillips Lanes
- July 13 1:00 p.m. Bike Services and Ride at Campbellsville Baptist Church.
- Little Sturgis July 17-20
- July 26 Wings of Pink Benefit Poker Run
- August 3 9:00 a.m. CMA Worship Services at Green River Lake.



Trip Planning

It's that time of year when we start making travel plans. To make of the most of the opportunities to enjoy our blessings, a few simple steps can go a long way. Day rides are always enjoyable but a weekend getaway or a longer trip needs to have some structure. Such as, points of interest, lodging, traffic concerns and alternate routes. A good road map and web search are *almost* priceless. After deciding on your destination, based on points of interest, the route choice is next. Looking at a good map gives you choices of routes. Web sites such as AAA's give you road information such as construction and detours. Most of the travel web sites have listings for lodging that will sometimes include campgrounds for those who like to rough it. So, plan your trip, do a little homework and enjoy the pleasure the good Lord has blessed you with. Remember, to truly enjoy the blessings, share the blessings and watch someone else enjoy them too.

Darrell Smith
Road Captain

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