



The Beacon

Lighthouse Riders Newsletter

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“Changing the World, one Heart at a time.”



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President's Pulpit

Bill Lang

Relationship and Its Importance:

This is a pretty interesting word.

Relate: An existing connection; a significant association between or among things

-Ship: A native English suffix of nouns denoting condition, character, office, or skill

E.g. Penmanship or Statesmanship

But we are talking about *relationship*, the skill or character to connect or significantly associate with one another.

John 17: 21-23 NLT Jesus says "I pray that they will be one, just as you and I are one - as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me."

WOW!!!!

Let me digress – As motorcyclists we could speak about the relationship between our tires and the road. We certainly want to be skillfully connected! This may seem trite considering the scripture above, but for those who have lost that connection, I can assure you it's not.

What about our relationship or skill with associations/connections with family, especially our spouses? Are we unified? Do we take the time to hone our skills there like carving the twisties with our motorcycles? What about our children, and our chapter members? Ooohhh, and what about those that are different than us????

Jesus speaks about a unity, a love, a relationship that will let the **world** know about Him!! Let's skillfully connect ourselves to Jesus, so then we can relate, significantly associate, and bring His love to a non-unified, disconnected world.

Bill Lang

6/28/10



Vice Presidents Word

Randy Bridgewater

A Brief Message from the VP

Most of you know I enjoy long distance riding! We plan vacations to meet up with other long distance riders, this time we made a trip to Taos. During this event I met an esteemed writer for a well known magazine. While reading his latest article about how motorcyclist become intimate with their bikes when they clean the steeds they ride. The cleaning allows opportunities for the rider to check the overall condition of the bike. 1 Chronicles 28:9 speaks of knowing the God of your ancestors intimately. While reading the article I continued to think about all of God's beauty that we were saw during our travels through Colorado and New Mexico. Riding a bike allows a rider to become closer to God and his creations. When you try to explain this opportunity to become close to God to a non rider they don't get it! Each time I ride prayer is always heavy in my thoughts. Through these prayers I become intimate with God. Long distance riding allows a chance to explore the great beauty's that God created confirming that God created these beauties' for all to view and share of what awaits them.

Did I have Devine appointments, some would say no! I tend to think each view was a Devine appointment that refreshed me with new seeds to spread for God's Glory!



When given the opportunity to explore God's creation while riding your bike utilize this moment to thank him and renew your seeds of blessings for all those that you may meet on your journey through life! Go forward, become intimate with God and remember:

Keep your eyes focused forward and I will watch your back!

Randy

Chaplain's Corner

Where did I.....?



I believe that most Christians are doing their best to genuinely pursue the Lord and be obedient to Him. Even so, we know that on that day many will hear Him say:

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'" Matt. 25:40 (NIV)

And also say;

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." Matt. 25:45 (NIV)

This will be followed by very bad news. For some this could well be nothing more than having made a wrong assumption. It is very easy to make and is the kind of deception the enemy delights in perpetuating. As a former president once said; "It depends on what the meaning of "is" is."

Peter once asked how many times he was to forgive his brother. He wanted to get it right, he wanted to understand the meaning. Yet in the middle of the sermon on the mount, immediately after explaining that He had come not to abolish the law, but to fulfill it, and that our righteousness had to surpass the righteousness of the Pharisees in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, Jesus revealed the importance of the Spirit of the law as opposed to the letter of the law. On the subjects of Murder, Adultery, Divorce, Oaths, Revenge and Love he said "You have heard ... but I tell you ..." (Matt. 5:21-48)

So what am I getting at here? I believe that culturally we have latched on to the letter ... the exact meaning ... of the word "least" in the phrase "least of these." When we think of the least of these, we think of the poor, the wretched, the unfortunate, maybe the unsaved. We think of homeless people and victims of natural disasters or human cruelty. While all of that is true, it is *per se* the letter of the law.

I believe that many of those surprised at the great White Throne Judgment are going to be shocked, having treated all of the "least of these" just mentioned in the most loving of ways. They are going to ask "Lord, when was I rude to you, or petty, or when did I judge you harshly and wrongly? When did I gossip about you, or seek my own satisfaction rather than forgive? When did I not call you, or leave you to work alone?" It is then that they will learn the devastating truth. Taken literally, the "least of these" may have been a statement about societal position, but in spirit the "least of these" may be best defined as being the people to whom we are "least" likely to apply the label! Our wealthy, snobby neighbor, our unreasonable and demanding boss (or customer) the lady in church that always sits in front wearing the bodacious hats, our governmental leaders (the ones that we don't like) the guy pumping our gas, our server in a restaurant, the people that sit around the table at Denny's at our chapter meeting. These are all members of the least of these, and it is these that we are least likely to view or recognize as the "least of these."

So how does this fit? How does this definition expansion really jive with scripture? Both the classical examples of the "least of these" and the expanded "spirit of the law" group that I propose represent the people that at that time, in that society, were the people that were mostly likely considered lightly, if at all. These were the people most likely to go un-noticed, unconsidered. These were the people towards whom the "spiritual" people of the day were *least* likely to treat with the great love the Father has for them.

God is ferociously fond, lavishly loving and permanently protective of every single person that He has made. We are all one of the "least of these." So as we do our best to genuinely pursue the Lord and be obedient to Him, let us all the more live in a way that extends God's love and grace to **every** person that we come in contact with. Let no person fall below our radar, or be unimportant or inconsequential to us. Truly notice everyone, and see and treat them as the beloved child of the Father that they are.

Secretaries Report Sheryl Reiley

Luke 1:37 “Nothing is Impossible with God.”

I love this verse. I use it many times especially when I have something to do, that is a challenge for me. My latest challenge was going through the Central Jersey Riding Training Course. Boy, what a challenge it was. When I entered the classroom Friday evening and looked around, I thought, ok, you’re the oldest one here, except for one man, what are you doing here?

My reason for going through this course, is Jesus. I have been riding with my husband on his bike for just about 24 years now. Time to get off the back and ride my own for Him. I’ve been wanting to do this, and, once before in 2003 when I attempted to take the course, I tripped and broke my shoulder the weekend before. Do you think Satan had

something to do with that? Hum.....m.m.m.

Well, here I am 7 years later, a little older, but still have the desire to ride for Jesus!

Guess what? I got my motorcycle license last weekend. Yes, I could have said, too hot, too old, too dangerous, but God is my DRIVER and I want to minister to those who need

Jesus as their Savior. Riding with CMA has taken me into God’s uncultivated territory and “nothing is impossible with HIM.” Don’t listen to anyone but Jesus!! If you are thinking about riding for Him, I did it, you can do it!!!



Road Captains Report Jim Mayhew

Trust in the Lord with all thine Heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

Forgive me my Brothers and Sisters for I have sinned in both thought and deed. Additionally I have not lead by good example. It happened on my way to work one morning. I was tooling along at about 80 mph (which meant I was keeping up with traffic) when I came upon a car in the fast lane who was pacing himself with a car in the middle lane. This kept up for about a mile and seeing that no one was in the slow lane I signaled and made my way to the far right lane where I wicked it up and passed on the right (1st mistake), as soon as I cleared the car in the middle lane I signaled and moved all the over to the fast lane where I really twisted my right hand. About a minute later I heard it, a sound I had not heard behind me in quite awhile. The siren brought me right to attention and I looked down at my speedometer which was reading on the wrong side of the century mark.. I knew then the siren was not to make me move over so the officer could pass, but it was for me. A quick look in the rear view mirror confirmed my suspicion as he was right on my rear tire. I signaled and pulled to the shoulder of the road. As he approached, I could see his hand was on the handle of his gun. He asked me for my paperwork and was about to tell me why he pulled me over when I confessed that I knew I was speeding. He took my paperwork back to his vehicle while I sat and pondered on the guardrail. Maybe he would write me up for illegal tail lamp bulbs, maybe for not having reflective tape on my helmet or maybe only 15 mph over the limit instead of 40. Then my downfall....I was wearing my patch...maybe just maybe.... As the officer approached me a could see a piece of paper in his hand, it looked just like a ticket. “ Mr. Mayhew we are patrolling this section of Highway looking for aggressive drivers, I’m only going to give you a warning and I want you to read this pamphlet on aggressive driving.” What? Did I hear that right? Now it dawned on me...my patch had been my savior...and that is wrong! I want to apologize to all my fellow Light House Riders, NJ CMA members and CMA National. This is not why I wear this patch and I’m truly sorry that I did not represent us in a positive way. Going forward I promise to be a shining example of what CMA is all about and I will never disrespect my patch again.



CMA National Rally

Wow! What an experience! CMA National Rally had some familiar aspects, like the lessons taught by the national leadership in the sessions, and the very useful and practical workshops, and the presentations by the Run for the Son Partners, and the presenting of their checks to them. It also had a very new and equally wonderful twist. The first ever President's meeting where the entire Evangelical Board met with all chapter presidents or their designees. They want to improve communications (in both directions) and this was how they chose to start. How encouraging and uplifting that time was. I did not hear it officially announced, but I believe there was a strong undercurrent that next years National East Rally will be in Georgia.

The trip out was a blast. We logged 700 miles the first day (it could have been 600, but would you believe that not only was the mountain pass we were planning to ride to get us across closed, but that they did not mark it closed at the entrance! They let us ride an incredible twisty road up the mountain, replete with multiple switchbacks, one of which contained an intensely steep vertical as well, so that we had to backtrack DOWN that road and divert to other roads. Then a highway in a major city was closed for the day by a University event, and we detoured yet again, that all netting us another 100 miles that day.) We laid over in Pidgeon Forge, TN (next to Gatlinburg.) The second day we crossed most of Tennessee. Now we were off of interstates and riding beautiful roads. This was my first time riding in the Smokies. They were just gorgeous. We fell about an hour short of Memphis, which is on the far west border right along the Mississippi river. The third and final day saw breakfast in Memphis (at one of the many Cracker Barrels frequented during this ride) and then crossing Arkansas and riding the Ouchita mountains (pronounced WAH - chi - TAH.) The last leg was only about 375 miles.

We were not able to register for the conference until the next day, and the first session wasn't until 7pm, so we hopped back on the bikes and rode another 300 miles or so, travelling through Oklahoma and Texas, and stopping at a fantastic roadhouse for some serious pit barbecue for lunch. (Why let the engines get cold?)

I was staying in a motel in town about 6 miles from Iron Mountain. The rest were camping up in the Queen Wilhelmina National Park, which is atop one of the mountains. The ride up to the campground was a 13 mile twisty that brought pleasure every day. The views from up there were breathtaking.

It seems that the enemy is always looking to divide us, and this trip was no exception. God's goodness and protection were supreme, and all made it home safely. With the exception of an hour or two of rain (and hail?) through Virginia on the way out, the ride was conducted in heat indexes ranging from 103° to 110°. Jim's talk on hot weather riding and knowing the signs of dehydration sure paid dividends!

I did enjoy the opportunity to bring a word of encouragement to a working mom at the motel we stayed at in Pidgeon Forge. It was such a joy to see the word touch her heart (and come out her eyes.) There were also numerous opportunities for ministry just within our riding group.

I have learned that it is nearly impossible to get someone who does not have the passion to understand why I found all of this so thoroughly enjoyable, so I have stopped trying. Suffice it to say that while this was my longest road trip to date, I have no intention of letting it remain so for too long.

In His Service,
John (C-Bear)



Tech Tidbits by Jim Mayhew

Tire Safety

Did you know that your motorcycles came equipped with 2 bars? No not drink bars, but wear bars and they are on your tires. If you look closely in the grooves of the tread on your tires, you will see a small raised bar. This is called a wear bar and it tells you when your tire are worn and need to be replaced. When the tread on your tire is even with the wear bar your tire tread is worn out and needs to be replaced. Is this the only indication your tire needs to be replaced? NO! Before you ride you should visually inspect your tires for cracks in the sidewall, bubbles or abnormal bulges in the tread or sidewall and any gouges or splits or nails. These are all signs your tire need to be replaced immediately. While you are down there inspecting your tire don't forget to check the air pressure. If you don't know the pressure you need in the tire your owners or shop manual will tell you. If you don't have a manual the tire pressure is listed on the sidewall of the tire. Any questions on tire safety do not hesitate to ask Randy or myself.

Safe riding!

Prayer Intentions

For the employees of both Millville and Wildwood HD, that they find new jobs since the dealerships have closed.

For continued growth both in membership and Spirituality in the Lighthouse Riders Chapter.

For the continued safety of all the riders in the Lighthouse Riders Chapter.

For the safety of our new friends, Pastor Andy and Harold.

For Elmer on his move back to Tennessee.

For Jim's co-worker Tom who was involved in a motorcycle accident. Anyone who rode with us to the hillclimb last year will remember Tom and his antique HD.

I KNOW WE HAVE MORE PRAYER INTENTIONS!!!!!!!



Where one man reads the Bible, a hundred read you and me.

Dwight L. Moody

Influence is an interesting word and one that I've been pondering and considering recently. In our American culture and society we often define influence as power, control, or force, associated with prestige, ability or position. Or, we are all familiar with this word being used in the term, "under the influence", as this relates to a motor vehicle offense related to alcohol or other drugs. Even the legal definition of influence notes there are proper and improper uses of influence. An improper influence basically destroys another's free will while proper influence is that which is gained through acts of kindness and attention and correct conduct.

And in our current day American Christian culture, we lean toward measuring our influence by our actions – what you say, groups you lead, people you help, activities you support. But your greatest influence or effect on lives doesn't occur through actions – it is based upon the atmosphere that you create, and then leave behind....the influence that you have had upon others.

Everywhere you go, you create an atmosphere and therefore provide an influence....the only question is, what kind? Is your definition of influence...the effect you are having upon others....based upon control and power....or is it based upon gentle guidance, persuasion, and kindness?

When all is said and done, it is likely that most people will not remember much of what you said or most of what you did. But they will remember the life you lead and the influence that you left behind.

Elaine Lang

6/28/10

Deacon Ron's quote Corner

"How powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth."

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Anniversaries:

Bill and Elaine Lang 7/12

Birthdays:

Jason Lang 7/11

Bruce Williams 7/7