

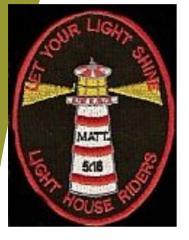
# The Beacon

Lighthouse Riders Newsletter

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"Changing the World, one Heart at a time."



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#### The Beacon





#### President's Pulpit

Jesus said **YOU** are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on a stand and let it give light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5 : 14–16)

Just as the city on the hill is noticed. We are noticed on our bikes and need to let his light shine through us. As we go out into a dark world, to the highways and byways, runs and rallies to do the good deeds that we have been preordained to do, so praise will be given to our Heavenly Father.

We are the Lighthouse Chapter and these are some of the things the colors in our lighthouse patch stand for. The black background is our darkened sinful past. (Romans 6:16) The red border is surrounded, protected by the blood. (Jn 1:7) The lighthouse is a warning of the dangers in the darkness. (Jn 12:35) The light is the signal for hope in the night. (Jn 1:7) The cross, formed by the lighthouse and the beams of light, is where the Power of Sin was defeated, once and for all. (Col 2:13-15)

God Bless

#### Vice President's Words

I've been thinking how we are drawn by the Holy Spirit in our preprocess walk toward Christ and then our walk with Christ thereafter. As it is, our walk thereafter is an up and down experience.

What comes to mind regarding this is in Galatians 6:1-5, even though I have my own failings, I try to keep thes verses in my mind in regard to our ministry with CMA.





Chaplain's Corner



## Chaplain's Corner

Culturally, we are a people that are not fond of discipline. We want the quick fix, the immediate gratification. We often prefer the instant, microwaveable, just add water version of things. Losing weight is sought through pills and supplements rather than diet & exercise. Wealth is sought via lottery tickets, casino trips and internet pyramid schemes. This often seeps into our spiritual outlook. It is good to seek prayer when we feel spiritually out of sorts or face a challenge or temptation or trial of some kind. It is not however a replacement for disciplining ourselves in prayer and meditating on the Word.

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (NIV)

The importance of running to win the race recently occurred to me in a new and different way: The essence of the idea was 'It is possible to run a personal best and not win the race!' The enemy is all too happy to help keep us from pressing in to the essential spiritual disciplines. Just as he was planting doubt and asking questions to lead away from God's will in the garden, he continues doing so today. He will tell us that we are doing better than we have ever done before, we can relax, cruise a little, that where we are is just fine. Unfortunately, that is comparing our selves to the wrong standard. This may be the Army of God, but "Be all you can be" is not what we are about. A personal best is not the thing that makes it count. The true standard is set forth in Leviticus (and 3 times, no less!)

I am the LORD your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy. Peter developed this more for us in 1 Peter 1:13-16:

Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

We are called to a life of self-imposed discipline for specific purposes; to win the race, to be prepared in and out of season, and for the pure joy of being used and seeing God move sovereignly through us. Let's not allow anything to cause us to 'break training.'

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## Verse for the Month

Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (NIV)

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Web-servant's note: I have purchased the LighthouseRiders.org domain name, and begun the creation of a new unofficial website to replace the existing one. There will be numerous benefits from this. We will have much shorter, saner addresses to our web pages. We will be able to have special member only areas that require a login with a password. We will all have the option of having an email address of <u>name@LighthouseRiders.org</u>.

Stay tuned for the announcements to come!



