

LIKE RIDING !?!

Following Jesus is like riding a motorcycle!

In what ways do you think they could be similar? Think about it...

1. **You have to choose to do it.** Everyday we choose how we are going to live, and for who.

Joshua 24: 14-15 Then read... "It's your choice" on page 256.

Matthew 12:30 Anyone who isn't with Jesus, opposes Him. So, if you choose not to follow Jesus – then, you have chosen to oppose Him. Either way – you are making a choice!

2. **You have to prepare to do it.**

A. **Equipment:** Leather Jacket, Chaps, Gloves, Boots, Helmet, etc. Each item has it's purpose, and not just to look "cool". Think about their purposes! They're like armor – to protect us. We wear them to survive!

Ephesians 6: 10-18 Put on the whole armor of God.

[Colossians 3:16-17 ; II Timothy 3:16-17]

B. **The Bike needs to be ready to go.**

1. **Fuel:** Read Gods Word, Worship God, Pray to God, Fellowship with His Believers (hanging out with His Believers).

Ezekiel 36:26-27 A new heart and a new spirit.

[also: Ephesians 4:23; John 15: 4-5; Matthew 21:22 Prayer. Read "Anything we want?" on page 986; I John 1:7; Philippians 4:6 Prayer. Read "No Worries" on page 1206]

2. **New Tires, Tune-up, etc.** – so that you have the confidence that it will run properly and be mechanically sound.

Titus 1: 1-2 Then read "The Foundation of Faith" on page 1340. Confidence.

II Corinthians 5:17 Becoming a new person. Caterpillar/Butterfly: once the caterpillar becomes a butterfly, it will never be a "worm" again...NOR ... would it want to be!

[Psalm 46:1-3]

3. **Comfort:** for a long ride...comfort is important!

Proverbs 31: 30 The word original word used for "fear" actually means:
"to **worshipfully** and **reverently trust** God".

When you truly Trust God – He gives you that "comfort". You are "comfortable", no matter where He takes you. We talk about being taken out of our "comfort zones". When we get to the point where we are "comfortable" in our lives, as is...many times God will ask us to trust Him and move out of our "comfort zone" and go where He wants us to go. When we Trust and Obey Him, He promises that we will not be sorry! As we obey and move where He leads us...we soon find that this "new zone" has become "comfortable" to us! And so, our "comfort zone" has expanded!

C. **Decide where you want to go and how to get there.**

1. **Road Map:**

Psalm 48:14 Then read “The Guide” on page 614. God is our Guide.

[John 14: 6; Romans 10: 9-11; Proverbs 16:3; I Chronicles 28:9]

2. **Know your limitations.** Example: Parking for Tracey. She has to park where she can either ride straight out or where the bike will roll backwards by itself – because she cannot physically push it backwards by herself. She also has to watch out for gravel, it can make it hard to get a good footing.

I Corinthians 10: 12-13 Then read “Temptation” on page 1257. Watch out.

[II Timothy 2: 22 Then read “Run!” on page 1238. Romans 12:21]

3. **Fear.** Satan uses fear to try and stop us and keep us from doing what God would have us to do.

Psalm 23: 1-6 With God, you have everything you need.

Philippians 4: 13 I can do everything through Christ!

[Isaiah 41: 10 & 13 Don’t be afraid, God is with you.]

D. **Once you’re on the road:**

1. **Where you look is where you go!** Example: on a curve...you look to where you want to go, and that is where you will go. But, if you just look at the road right straight in front of you..you will go straight, and miss your curve. How do you know where to look?

Proverbs 4:23-27 Then read “Guard Your Heart” on page 675.

[Jeremiah 29: 11-13; Romans 12:2 Then read “A Renewed Mind” on page 1148.]

2. **You are more aware of everything:** smells, gravel, holes in the road, wind, weather, air temperature and humidity. Because of being more aware, you also get better prepared. If it’s cold – you put on your jacket. If it’s raining – you put on your rain suit. If there is gravel on the road – you slow down and loosen your grip on the handle bars. Problems will show up! Be sure to let God stay in control, He can handle any of them!

John 10:10 satan’s purpose, and God’s purpose.

Jeremiah 29: 11-13 Sets us free!

[II Corinthians 4:1-18 Then read “The Purpose of Problems” on page 1271. I Corinthians 15: 55-57 Then read “Results” on page 1264. Victory and working enthusiastically!

Ephesians 5:15-20; and Titus.]

3. **Warning Signs along the way.** Some are put out by the government, others are on or around the road. Example: Speed limit signs, Stop signs, Curve signs, Danger signs, Road Construction signs, etc. These signs help us to ride safely, if we pay attention to them. God gave us His Word, the Bible, to help us to recognize the “dangers signs” of this world.

Matthew 12:30 & 36 Warning.

Galatians 6:7-10

[James 4: 17 ; Ephesians 3: 16-19 A Prayer for each of us!]

4. **It’s dangerous! One wrong choice could end the ride forever!** There are many examples of this: going into a curve too fast, not paying attention to the road and hitting something, and so on. We have all heard about people who have died in motorcycle crashes. **There is one choice we all have to make – in regards to “Forever” – we either choose Jesus or we don’t.** If we choose Jesus now – this ride only gets better and better! If we do not choose Jesus – the ride will only get worse from here!

JOHN 14:6