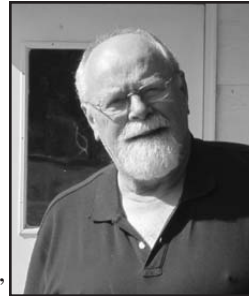


**Inevitable Change**

Matt had been a biker since he was a kid. He couldn't even begin to count the accidents he had suffered, or the broken bones he had endured, but there was no way he was giving up the biker's lifestyle. Speed became an obsession for him, and he was oblivious to laws or limits as he furiously rode his way through the country. The speed limit for him was as fast as his bike would go. It was little surprise that Matt soon drifted over the line and lived on the wrong side of the law. It was with great satisfaction that he was hired by the government as an agent of the IRS where he could legally utilize some of his dishonest tendencies. Years passed and Matt settled into a strained and struggling life. On and off relationships were the norm for him, and he could never find real satisfaction in anything he did. On the job he harassed, hounded and cheated the people he was employed to serve. On weekends he rode hard and drank hard in an effort to stifle the guilty conscience he could not quite escape.



Then Matt met Jaysee, and was invited to become a member of his motorcycle club, the Brotherhood of the Wind. There was a subtle curiosity which Matt had about Jaysee - he couldn't understand someone who was so selfless and considerate of others. Matt found himself wanting to become like this man, and leave behind his previously unsatisfying existence. A lot of things began to change in Matt's life as a result of that meeting. The desire to flaunt his lawlessness, and to work for the government ripping off people left him, replaced by a desire to help others and be a positive influence. But wanting to feel the wind in his face and experience a speeding machine between his knees did not change.

Jaysee taught Matt that change is inevitable. Every day brings about new challenges which demand changes in attitudes and approaches. This coincided with the physical changes that were taking place with Matt's often abused body. He wasn't quite able to do all the things he used to do when he was younger. Sometimes even throwing his leg over the Harley's saddle required great effort. After dumping his ride a couple of times because his knee gave out at a stop sign, Matt began to just roll through stops. His reaction times slowed, and he began to have more close calls than ever. Often, after a day of riding the wind, he could barely shrug off his leathers and fall into bed - he sometimes needed help to get his boots off. All of a sudden, he was thinking about "trikin" his ride. Matt was always pretty traditional in his biking views, but the embarrassment of riding on three wheels was overwhelmed by the shame of having to ask for help picking up his dropped bike all the time. Three wheels seemed to be the inevitable choice if he was going to keep riding. Of course, the Brotherhood encouraged Matt to do whatever necessary to continue riding the wind.

We all have choices to make in life which will involve change. The really important changes in Matt's life did not involve two versus three wheels, but involved his attitudes and character. It wasn't really about whether he would continue to ride and live the biker's lifestyle or retire his broken old body to a rocking chair. What we all need is the change that comes through knowing Jesus Christ, and discovering His plan and purpose for us.

"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 thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil." Proverbs 3:5-7

There is much in life that we cannot understand until we see it from God's point of view (faith). We will find guidance and direction when we acknowledge that He sees and knows things we cannot discover for ourselves. Knowing the Lord will cause us to turn away from sin and evil and follow after the good things of life. These are the changes that the Lord makes in us as we commit ourselves to Him. For Matt, a trike was just icing on the cake.  
Pastor Sam

Pastor Sam Ministry Schedule for you to check out:  
PETRO Truck Stop Chapel, Portage, WI  
I-90/94/39 exit 108 (SH 78 exit)  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Chapel Service at 7 p.m.  
Sunday Chapel Service at 7:45 a.m.  
White Creek Church off State Hwy 13 on County H,  
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