

Wisdom for Those Who Are Thinking About Developing A Ministry To Motorcycle Clubs By Joe Drake

Ministry to Motorcycle (Biker) Clubs is an area that is not for everyone. It is hard to get in and even harder to be heard or to have an ear. It really has nothing to do with what you have to say or who you represent. It has everything to do with EARNING the RIGHT to be heard.

Ministry is all about building relationships. In the club culture, it comes from getting to know one or two guys which can lead to getting to know their brothers and then other clubs.

My relationship with the clubs began from being seen at rallies and events. We supported runs and rallies which allowed us to have some conversations with bikers by talking about bikes. We did not walk in with our Bibles and start beating people over the heads with them.

First I began by learning the culture and protocol. If you are called to be a missionary to a foreign country, you don't just buy a plane ticket and take off. You begin by learning their language and culture. It's the same with the biker culture. God calls us to be in the world, not of the world. You don't have to drink and cuss to have a relationship with bikers. In fact, if you claim to be different, you better live what you claim. They will call you on it if you don't.

There has been more damage done by Christians and even Christian biker ministries because they don't live their lives in Christ. I have even seen Christian bikers at events drinking and cussing and acting like fools. They are not respected and may even be put in their place by the clubs if they continue in their actions.

It is all about respect. If you show respect, you will earn their respect. It comes slowly and can easily be lost fast if you step out of line. You have to always know your place. You're not their brother and you should never call them brother. Relationships can form as they get used to you and who you are. Remember, you are walking into their world, not them into yours.

We have built some great relationships with the clubs in our area today. They make sure we are doing O.K. When we go out of town, they call and check on us. I can truly say that, even though they aren't Christians and I am not a patch holder with their club, the relationships that have been built are real and they take it serious.

Working with the 1% clubs requires a call from God. It's not for everyone and shouldn't be attempted if it's not what you're called to do. For now, God has opened the doors. We continue to walk thru the doors He opens and stay away from the doors He closes.

Allow God to lead and guide as you continue to respond to His call in your life.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Drake
Bikers for Christ