

**SAID ED August 3, 2008**

One of my favorite warm weather activities is biking. I try to get out a couple of times a week if possible. I would much rather exercise by riding somewhere rather than just exercising in place. I suspect I'm not alone in that regard.

Recently I came across a wonderful reflection about biking that I want to share with you. It's called "Biking with God".

"At first I saw God as my observer, my judge, keeping track of the things I did wrong, so as to know I merited heaven or hell when I die. God was out there, sort of like the president. I recognized His picture when I saw it, but I really didn't know Him.

Later on it seemed as though life was rather like a bike ride, but it was a tandem bike and I noticed that God was in the back helping me pedal. I don't know just when it was that God suggested we change places, but life has not been the same since. Life with God "in the driver's seat" makes life very interesting!

When I had control, I knew the way. It may have seemed boring but at least it was predictable. It was the shortest and safest distance between two points. But when God took the lead, He knew delightful but challenging "long cuts", up mountains and through rocky places at breakneck speeds; it was all I could do to hang on! Even when I thought it looked like madness, God said "pedal!"

I worried and was anxious and asked, "Where are you taking me?" God laughed and didn't answer and I started to learn to trust. I forgot my predictable life and entered into "the adventure". When I'd say "I'm scared", God would lean back and touch my hand. He took me to people with gifts that I needed; gifts of healing, acceptance and joy. They gave me their gifts to take on my journey with God. We were off again and God said "give the gifts away; they are extra baggage and too much weight." So I did. I gave them to the people we met, and I found that in giving, I received and still our burden was light.

I did not trust God to be in control of my life at first. I thought that God would wreck it. But God knows "biking secrets". God knows how to make life bend so as to take sharp corners and how to pedal in the strangest places. I'm beginning to enjoy the view and the cool breeze on my face is delightful and "my constant companion".

I hope this little "biking story" provides insight for you. It's a wonderful way of saying that with God number one in our lives everything else falls into place in appropriate ways.

Have a good week!

PS: Don't forget about our Parish Picnic next Sunday. Have you turned in your raffle tickets yet?

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